

WHY HUNTING SHOULD NOT BE BANNED
Save the country way of life, says Clive Aslet

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STAY OUT OF POLITICS CHARLES
Libby Purves educates the Prince

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SCHOOL SHANTIES
The winners heading to the Junior Prom

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BRITAIN'S FIRST SEED FOR 15 YEARS
Henman bids for the Wimbledon men's title

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'Nothing prepared me for what I saw', says doctor who ran to RUC men shot in cold blood

Ulster talks off after double killing

By Nicholas Watt, Philip Webster and Audrey Magee

THE Government severed all contacts with Sinn Féin last night after the IRA murdered two policemen in cold blood in the centre of Lurgan, Co Armagh.

Constable John Graham and Constable David Johnson died instantly when they were shot in the back of the head while on the beat near the town's RUC station.

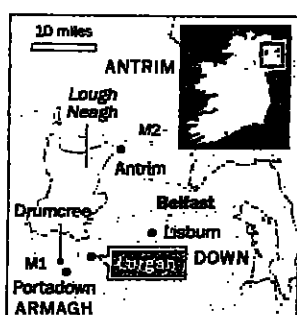
A doctor who was on the scene within seconds said that there was nothing he could do to save the two men slumped on the ground 30 yards from his surgery. Dr John McMillen said: "Nothing prepared me for what I saw. I can't believe anyone could do this sort of thing to a fellow human being."

Constable Graham, 34, was married with three daughters aged ten, seven and two; and Constable Johnson, 30, a full-time member of the RUC Reserve, was married with two sons aged seven and three. Both held the force's Service Medal.

They were ambushed as they walked past a parochial hall in Church Walk, just off Lurgan's main street, at 11.53 am. The gunmen, who were thought to be wearing women's wigs, fired up to six shots at close range and then ran off to a getaway car which was later found burnt out on a nationalist housing estate.

Within two hours, the IRA's North Armagh brigade had admitted that it was responsible for the first RUC murders since the 1994 ceasefire.

The Prime Minister was



Mr Blair said: "This appalling terrorist act has been claimed by the Provisional IRA. Meanwhile Sinn Féin talks peace and has suggested a new ceasefire is possible. Their cynicism and hypocrisy are sickening. Their actions defy normal understanding. It is difficult to interpret this latest attack as anything but a signal that Sinn Féin and the IRA are not interested in peace and democracy and prefer violence."

He was joined in his condemnation by John Bruton, the outgoing Irish Prime Minister, who described the killings as coldly calculated murder which had been deliberately timed to cause maximum tension just before the height of the Protestant marching season.

Mr Bruton said the location of the double murder — near to the site of contentious parades — was chosen to cause maximum sectarian strife. The attempt has clearly been made by the Republican movement to generate sectarian animosity and they seek by this murder to engender further sectarian bitterness.

The RUC Chief Constable, Ronnie Flanagan, agreed. He said: "No twisted logic can justify such acts. No words can put a gloss on cold-blooded murder and no cause can be furthered by violence which is not only abhorrent in itself, but carried out in circumstances which can only further inflame an already tense and volatile situation — and which is designed to do just that."

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin President, was signing copies of his autobiography in a Belfast bookshop when he was told about the shootings. Remaining seated, he looked straight ahead and nodded before saying: "At a personal and at a human level I am shocked. I think that any death in this situation diminishes all of us. These deaths must act as a huge incentive on those of us in political leadership to redouble our

efforts to get the peace process restored."

Michael McLaughlin, Sinn Féin's national chairman, chose the same form of words, saying he was "personally shocked" by the killings, "which diminish us all".

But Sinn Féin's response was dismissed as "weasel words" by Mr Blair and Mr Bruton, who said that the party should come straight out and condemn the killings. Mr Bruton said: "I am appalled by



Blankets cover the bodies of the two RUC men who were shot in the head in Lurgan, Co Armagh, by IRA gunmen wearing women's wigs

the way in which Mr Adams ransacked the dictionary to find new words to avoid condemning this brutal murder. This is a brutal murder, committed by a movement of which Mr Adams is a leading figure." He added that he hoped his successor, Bertie Ahern, would abandon plans to see Mr Adams before taking office next week. "I would be appalled if he went ahead with a meeting in these circumstances."

Mr Blair agreed, adding: "I would like to see Mr Adams face up to the responsibility of condemning it outright, no hesitation, no weasel words." And asked if there could be any contact with Sinn Féin, he said: "There can be no question of talking in these circumstances."

There are now fears that loyalist paramilitaries will end their ceasefire. Gary McMichael, leader of the Ulster Democratic Party — political

wing of the terrorist Ulster Defence Association, said the shootings had created a dire situation: "I hope we will see restraint after this deliberate provocation. But each of these terrible tragedies makes it more difficult." His colleague, David Adams, said: "The future looks dark. We have to face the reality that we may well push the loyalists to the brink."

But the Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble urged the loyalist paramilitaries: "Don't play the IRA's game." He said: "This was a dastardly crime committed by members of the IRA sneaking up behind policemen on the beat who were serving the entire community. What has happened underlines the character of Sinn Féin/IRA and the nature of the beast we are dealing with. There must surely be an end to wishful thinking."

Tactical switch, page 2

Final protester is evicted at airport

The last protester occupying Manchester Airport's proposed second runway was evicted after a tunnel collapsed, trapping him and a sheriff's officer for five hours.

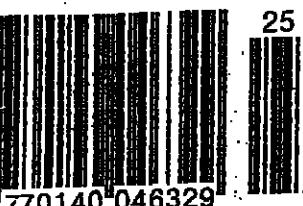
The five-month security operation, during which 210 protesters have been arrested, is estimated to have cost the airport and contractors about £4 million.

£1,000 windfall for shareholders

Around 18 million policyholders at Norwich Union became at least £1,000 richer as the latest demutualisation bonanza hit the high street. Norwich shares first traded at 350p before falling to 324½p, which is still 34½p higher than the expected initial price of 290p.

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Euro rolled out after pact satisfies French honour

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER AND CHARLES BREMNER IN AMSTERDAM

EUROPEAN leaders last night launched the new single currency coins after France and Germany papered over their differences.

A classic European Union compromise at the summit here led to France giving way to Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and Tony Blair and dropping its objections to the rigid budgetary rules that will govern monetary union through a stability pact.

In return, President Chirac and Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, won the explicit agreement of the EU to put the creation of jobs at the top of its agenda through a new "jobs and growth pact" that will stand alongside the stability pact. Under the deal Germany and Britain were



The euro for your pocket from 2002

able to claim that no new European funds would go into job creation projects.

The European Commission, delighted that the latest setback to its cherished dream of a single currency had been overcome, swiftly staged a news conference to display the single currency coins that, under present plans, would become legal tender in 2002.

The Queen's head survives on the front of the coin that would be minted and circulated in Britain, if it signed up, and there is a map of Europe — with Britain at its heart — on the back.

Raising the importance of jobs in EU affairs was one of a series of diplomatic victories that the Prime Minister seemed likely to be able to hail last night at his first negotiating summit.

An agreement to give him the cast-iron guarantees that he had sought that Britain would keep its own frontier controls, immigration and visa rules was all but sealed late last night. A separate protocol is to be written into the new treaty which Mr Blair believes will ensure that Brit-

Continued on page 2, col 7

Row buried, page 14
Anatole Kaletsky, page 22

Hague poised for second-round win

By Andrew Pierce and Philip Webster

WILLIAM HAGUE powered ahead in the Tory leadership contest yesterday, gaining the support of Gillian Shepherd and with enough declared votes to go into Thursday's third round.

Mrs Shepherd, the former Education Secretary, joined Michael Howard and Peter Lilley in backing the former Welsh Secretary. With at least 20 MPs yet to declare, the battle for the 47 votes of the Lilley and Howard campaigns continued until late last night.

Mr Hague's total of public declarations is 56 — one above the minimum required to go into Thursday's final ballot. Supporters of Kenneth Clarke privately conceded that Mr Hague had moved decisively ahead. The John Redwood team said it was catching up and would fight Mr Hague in the final round. As the three

teams completed their final calculations last night, Mr Hague was expected to finish first with Mr Redwood closing the gap on Mr Clarke.

At a meeting of 120 Tory MPs, Mr Hague infuriated Mr Clarke's supporters when he reiterated that only MPs prepared to back his opposition to a single currency would join his Shadow Cabinet. "This is my party. Follow me," he told the meeting.

Mr Redwood, who many observers said was the most polished performer, refused to exclude heavyweights such as Mr Clarke.

In a carefully timed intervention, the Labour Party said that a Hague victory would lead to the defection of at least ten pro-Europe Tories.

Leading Article and Letters, page 23

Physicists find grain of truth in child's play

By a Staff Reporter

THE mystery of why wet sand makes better, longer-lasting sandcastles has been solved.

Schoolchildren have always known that soggy sand makes tougher turrets and battlements. But the physics of the effect and why, when the sun has dried out a sandcastle, it still stands has remained a mystery until now.

The findings have come from researchers at the University of Notre

Dame, Indiana, who have created their own beach made out of polystyrene beads the size of grains of sand to observe what they call the "wet sandcastle effect".

The team, led by Dr Peter Schiffer, has discovered that tiny but powerful "water bridges" are formed between grains of wet sand. The bridges stick the grains together in clumps, creating an effect similar to when mortar is used to stick bricks together. Dr Schiffer, whose team's findings are

published in *Nature* later this week, said yesterday that the water bridges used surface tension to bind the granules together.

The scientists have also found that the amount of water needed is far less than might be expected — more than 90 per cent of the water coating the sand is actually redundant. Dr Schiffer said this was because grains are not perfectly spherical or smooth. Less than 1 per cent of water on the grains' surfaces is actually used in

building granule-binding bridges. And they will remain, even when the sun dries the rest of the sand out, the scientists have found.

Dr Schiffer, who declined to comment on how much the research was costing, said unravelling the properties of coated granules was not just for fun. It is believed that the basic physics could revolutionise thinking on the structural strength of medicinal tablets or the concrete used in bridges and buildings.

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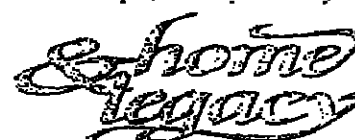
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Clark sleeps through divine thunder and saintly sermon

AN ENORMOUS clap of thunder yesterday heralded the arrival for Questions of Stuart Bell, the new Member representing the Church Commissioners. MPs glanced heavenwards. The high windows above the chamber rattled. A scared Mr Bell (Lab, Middlesbrough) scuttled in, looking equally rattled.

Nobody was sure whether the dramatic electric storm rumbling around the Palace of Westminster signalled divine displeasure at the appointment, or was designed to

impress newly elected Hon Members with the importance of the Almighty attaches to the Church Commission's monthly five minutes' grilling by MPs.

But the thunderclap failed to rouse Alan Clark (C, Kensington and Chelsea), Chin on chest. Mr Clark had been sunk in what was presumably deep thought for most of the Questions to Defence Ministers that preceded those to Church Commissioners.

His eyes were shut, his head had dropped forward and one

hand spread across his famously chiselled jaw, covering his mouth. Mr Clark looked profoundly at peace.

Even the mention of Clark's new constituency's name failed to jolt him from his meditations. The sure-footed Defence Secretary, George Robertson, defending the Government's defence review, said the idea had been endorsed by voices as diverse as that of CND and of "the Hon Member for Kensington and Chelsea".

All eyes moved to Mr Clark



but his own remained at rest, head sunk — if anything — deeper on to his chest. A colleague beside him turned to gauge his reaction, noted the Zen-like calm, and looked hastily away.

Mr Clark's serenity had remained unshaken even by an intervention from Martin Bell (Independent, Tanton).

The white-suited Mr Bell cuts a curiously old-fashioned figure in the House, his clipped speech reminiscent of the age of *Pathé News*. He was concerned at the length of service in Bosnia expected of soldiers in The Queen's Royal Hussars: "overstretch", he called it. We did not have the impression that Mr Bell wanted

to cut the British Army's commitments in Bosnia, but rather that he wanted reinforcements to personnel.

A chap who had entered Parliament on a progressive ticket, crusading to clean up Tory corruption, now found himself adopting the tone of a retired major writing to *The Daily Telegraph* about the overstretched Hussars.

Earlier, Mr Clark had seemed momentarily distracted from his reveries by a loud anonymous yelp from a fellow-backbencher. Dart Taylor

(Lab, Stockton S), glancing at some notes and displaying a sudden detailed knowledge of the JP 233 airfield denial weapon, had asked the Defence Secretary whether he had anything to say about its possible inclusion in the ban on landmines. By a strange coincidence, Mr Robertson had some remarks prepared on this very subject, and advised Ms Taylor, who was agog, that the JP 233 was to be banned.

"No!" yelped an unseen Tory, shocked. It is encouraging

to realise that, though our principal Opposition may be teased by a few peripheral uncertainties on sideshows like the European monetary system, the British constitution and the future of the welfare state, Tories are rock solid on the things that matter to the generation they must win over: assisted places, the defence of fox-hunting and the manufacture of landmines.

I suspect that, were we only to be granted access to Alan Clark's rich interior life, we should find he disagrees.

Manchester protest ends after tunnel collapses

By STEPHEN FARRELL

THE last protester occupying Manchester airport's proposed second runway was evicted yesterday after a tunnel collapsed, trapping him and a sheriff's officer underground for five hours.

Matt Benson, 23, was brought to the surface at 4pm on his eighteenth day inside the "cakehole" tunnel at the Flywood Babylon Council Estate camp near Sneyd in Cheshire.

His plan to emerge voluntarily in the morning was overtaken when a six-foot section of side wall collapsed fifteen feet inside the tunnel entrance at 11am, caving in an area shored by the professional tunnellers, known as Men in Black.

The sheriff's officer was struck by a falling plank and fire crews and ambulances were called. Rescuers later said the pair were not in immediate danger but had to lie side by side within the dank, narrow passage with air pumped through while four other sheriff's officers worked to free them.

Randal Hibbert, the Under Sheriff of Cheshire, said the collapse, caused by water penetrating the heavy Cheshire clay, was the most serious incident in 28 days since he began evicting 100 protesters occupying the £172 million development site.

He denied protesters' claims

that his men were responsible or trying to stage-manage the final day. "I have said before that if the protesters continued to occupy trees and tunnels it was only a question of time before some incident occurred," he said.

"It is very fortunate indeed that today's incident was not more serious. They place not only their own lives in danger but also those of the rescuers and I hope a lesson has been learnt."

Mr Benson, an articulate middle-class former NHS drugs auditor from Oldham, is a veteran of the M66, Newbury, and Fairmile protests. One of the first activists to arrive on the Manchester site in January, he was among the most expert tunnellers in the six camps and was nicknamed Logic and Push Podge.

Looking dazed when he emerged at 4pm, he was given a medical examination before being led to a police van, supported by a policeman and sheriff's officer, and taken to Wilmslow police station.

The five-month security operation, during which 210 protesters have been arrested, is estimated to have cost the airport and contractors AMEC and Tarmac about £4 million.

Mr Hibbert yesterday refused to disclose his budget but confirmed that Mr Benson and his fellow-tunnellers



Through the cakehole: Matt Benson is led away after 17 nights beneath the Manchester airport development

Muppet Dave, Denise and Neville had beaten the seven-day record set at Fairmile by Daniel Hooper, the underground protester known as Swampy.

He admitted that the cakehole was an "engineering feat" that held out three to four days longer than expected. "No-one has ever seen anything like it before — the complexity of it, the engineering

of it, ten doors, mostly steel, set in hard concrete. It is quite different from anything before."

He insisted that the contractors had not incurred penalties for delaying the work and would move onto the site the week after next.

Jeff Gazzard, a spokesman for the protesters, said he was concerned to learn of the collapse. "One might raise an

eyebrow. I'm not a great believer in conspiracy theories but I'm not surprised to see the potential for a massive rescue operation on the last day of the siege," he said.

He said the campaign against the second runway would continue and other protests were inevitable. "We represent the radicalisation of protest," he said.

"We have gone through the

stages of chatting to neighbours over the garden fence, going to public meetings and the iniquitous one-sided farce of the 101-day public inquiry.

"Now we are bringing together the young, the idealistic and the committed. If we haven't stopped the development we have, in my view, made it the last runway to be built on mainland Britain," he said.

Switch in tactics that culminated in a cold-blooded double murder

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT, AND RICHARD FORD

THE murder of two RUC officers in Lurgan yesterday marks a serious escalation by the IRA, which has been switching tactics in the 16 months since the end of its ceasefire.

The terrorists initially concentrated their violence on mainland Britain, with the massive Docklands bombing in February 1996, which heralded the end of the ceasefire, and the devastating bomb in Manchester a year ago.

Hopes that IRA terrorism would not return to Northern Ireland were dashed last October when the IRA carried out a double car-bomb attack at the Army's Northern Ireland headquarters on the outskirts of Lisburn, Co Antrim. The Ulster Volunteer Force and the

Ulster Defence Association refrained from resuming their campaigns because the IRA had attacked a specifically British target, not loyalists or RUC officers.

But after two gunmen walked into the Royal Belfast Children's Hospital on the Falls Road and shot two policemen who were guarding a Unionist politician, loyalists responded by planting a small bomb under the car of a republican in Belfast. The bomb

was the first of a series of attacks by the UDA and UVF which were not declared by the terrorist organisations.

The IRA renewed their campaign after the customary Christmas truce. On New Year's Eve a wedding reception at Belfast Castle had to be

abandoned after the IRA left a 1,000lb bomb in the grounds of the castle.

On January 6, a police officer suffered minor injuries when IRA terrorists fired an improvised grenade at a security post outside Belfast High Court. The IRA then launched a series of attacks on RUC and Army patrols in which no member of the security forces was killed.

In February the terrorists demonstrated their deadly intent when a sniper murdered Lance Bombardier Stephen Restorick in Co Armagh. The spring saw a series of bomb hoaxes on the mainland designed to disrupt the general election.

On April 10, Constable Alice Collins, a 46, was shot in the

back by an IRA sniper in Londonderry. The terrorists then observed a tactical suspension of their campaign in the run-up to the general and local elections to improve Sinn Féin's vote. The tactic paid off.

The terrorists who yesterday killed two police officers by shooting them in the head at close range used a method as old as the Irish republican movement itself. It involves the terrorist stalking their victim, walking up from behind and then firing at point-blank range into the victim's head.

Friends of Sinn Féin, the republican fund-raising organisation in the United States, raised \$216,000 (about £130,000) in the past six months, a third more than in the previous half year.

Reid brings back Gulf War doctor

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Army doctor assessing more than a thousand Gulf War veterans suffering from a range of illnesses has resigned after being subjected to complaints from some of the ex-servicemen.

Lieutenant Colonel Banu Bhatt had taken over from Wing Commander Bill Coker, who was promoted to group captain and posted to America. Veterans claiming to be victims of Gulf War syndrome were upset because they felt Group Captain Coker was sympathetic to their cause. He had expressed concern about the possible effects of organophosphate pesticides on Gulf troops before their widespread use was admitted by the previous Government.

Yesterday John Reid, the

Armed Forces Minister, announced that he had asked Group Captain Coker to return part-time to deal with the veterans. Lieutenant Colonel Bhatt has been allowed to leave his post immediately. A total of 1,305 ex-servicemen have been assessed and 337 are waiting.

Group Captain Coker will continue in his post in the United States but will return regularly to Britain as part of a new MoD advisory group which will help Dr Reid in overseeing the ministry's response to veterans' concerns.

Major Ian Hill, chairman of the National Gulf Veterans and Families Association, said: "I am delighted at the decision to bring Group Captain Coker back."

Mull crash widow accepts £500,000

The widow of an Army intelligence officer who died with 28 others when a Chinook helicopter crashed on the Mull of Kintyre in 1994, accepted more than £500,000 damages from the Ministry of Defence yesterday. The exact amount accepted by Delyth Gregory-Smith, 42, whose husband Richard was a lieutenant-colonel, was not disclosed. She has two young children. The helicopter was going from Northern Ireland to a conference at Inverness, when it hit a mist-covered mountain killing all on board.

Riding student 'whipped'

Police are investigating claims by a student stable lad that he was ordered to lay on an office floor and was "whipped" with a tree branch by an instructor at the Northern Racing College based at Rosington Hall, Bawdry, near Doncaster. Simon West, 17, left after three weeks of a 12-week course alleging other assaults. The college said it had begun its own inquiry but the accused instructor had not been suspended.

Synod debates homosexuality

The Church of England will face its most divisive issue since the ordination of women priests when the General Synod meets in York next month to discuss homosexuality. Dozens of lesbian and gay clergy and their supporters are expected to turn up to demand that the Church abandon its stance that clergy must choose marriage or celibacy, and recognise same-sex relationships. The synod will debate the bishops' 1991 report, *Issues in Human Sexuality*.

Cut-price alcopops criticised

The Co-op, which has banned the future sale of alcopops after concerns about under-age drinking, was criticised for selling off stock for as little as 50p. The drinks usually retail for more than £2. Gary Ward, of the Health Education Authority, said the cut price would appeal to young drinkers. A Co-op spokesman said that only bottles already on shelves were sold at a discount at the weekend and that all unsold bottles were removed from sale yesterday.

Baby catapulted from car

A baby was unhurt after being catapulted out of the window of a car as it hit a verge between Invergarry and Kyle of Lochalsh in the Scottish Highlands. Avast Farboud, four months, landed on long grass as the car, driven by his father, Shani, hit a fence, which stopped the vehicle from crushing the child beneath it. His mother, Penny, who had just stopped breast-feeding, said: "There wasn't a scratch on him. It was incredible."

Surgery for Siamese twins

The Siamese twins born in Manchester in April are to be separated by Professor Lewis Spitz, the country's most experienced surgeon in this sphere. The girls, who are joined at the abdomen and share a liver, have been transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, in central London, in preparation for the operation this week. Professor Spitz and his surgeon Edward Kieley have carried out separations in six cases in the past 13 years.

War hero to sell medals

Brigadier Michael Calvert, 84, a former Chindit hero and SAS commander, is to sell his medals, which include his DSO and Bar, to help to meet his medical bills. Military historians say the collection does scant justice to his extraordinary courage in a career that spanned five decades. The Brigadier, who still glories in his nickname of "Mad Mike", insists the collection must not be broken up. It is expected to fetch up to £15,000 at Spink and Son on July 17.

Euro rift is settled

Continued from page 1
ain's controls are safe from challenge in the European Court of Justice. Mr Blair succeeded in removing from the treaty references to Britain keeping border controls "necessary for the purpose" of monitoring immigration.

The wording has been changed to say that border controls are retained "as the

United Kingdom may consider necessary."

Today a new agreement tackling the problem of fish quota-hopping is expected to be announced, although it is likely to fall short of what British fishermen have been demanding.

Summit relief, page 14
Anatole Kaletsky, page 22

play tested to a velocity of 63.24m/s

142.3

MARK PHILIPPOUSSIS

Holder of the record for the world's fastest serve
Holder of the Stella Artois singles championship
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DUNLOP

ACCEPT NO LIMITS

Campbell rejects reports of a suicide attempt, saying she suffered an allergic reaction to penicillin

Model denies taking overdose after row

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS AND JOANNA BALE IN LAS PALMAS

NAOMI CAMPBELL shrugged off reports of a suicide attempt yesterday as she appeared smiling at a Paris photographic studio.

The model, who was admitted to hospital in the Canary Islands on Saturday, said that she had suffered an allergic reaction after taking penicillin for a chest cold she had caught in New York.

Reports from Spain that she had taken an overdose of barbiturates after a row with Joaquin Cortés, her boyfriend, were "a load of rubbish", she said. Miss Campbell, 27, who appeared fit and well, said: "I am very much alive, as you can see."

She added that she was worried about the effect that the reports of a suicide attempt would have on her elderly grandmother and her young brother, who had to put up with teasing about her at his school.

Friends said that Miss Campbell had been laughing and happy since her arrival aboard a private aircraft at Le Bourget airport early yesterday.

They said that she worked on an advertising shoot in Paris promoting her own brand of jeans in the afternoon. "She's much better," said a source at the Daylight studio where the photo-shoot took place.

Miss Campbell left the Ca-



Naomi Campbell and Joaquin Cortés together at a party during London Fashion Week in February

nary Islands on Sunday after spending a week at a five-star hotel with Señor Cortés. The couple were reported to have stayed in separate bedrooms.

A Spanish magazine published photographs of Señor Cortés on the beach with another woman, and said Miss Campbell had been distressed by its pictures.

Yesterday, the model dismissed suggestions that she had split up from her boyfriend, saying: "Everything is fine between us. You have to put up with this sort of thing when you're well known."

Two Spanish ambulance-

men who took Miss Campbell to hospital said they arrived at the hotel to find her conscious and sitting up in bed with Señor Cortés and the hotel doctor at her bedside. Francisco Taboas and Victor Ramirez, the paramedics, said that the model had complained of stomach pains and feeling generally unwell after "taking something" but did not want to go to hospital.

Señor Ramirez, an ambulance man at the Nuestra Señora del Pino hospital in Las Palmas, Grand Canary, was called to the Hotel Santa Catalina at 4am on Sunday. He said: "Her boyfriend told us that they had been out and had supper and a few drinks and that it could have been

that that upset her." Señor Ramirez took her blood pressure and temperature, which were normal. Señor Taboas said: "She said she wanted to stay at the hotel, but Señor Cortés and the doctor were saying she should go to hospital. It was a fairly relaxed atmosphere and everyone was chatting quite calmly. I suppose the doctor was being careful because of who she is."

Miss Campbell was admitted to the hospital's intensive care unit where, according to Spanish newspapers, she had her stomach pumped.

El País, one of Spain's leading national newspapers, yesterday stood by its story that she had taken an overdose of Valium after a "furious row" with Señor Cortés. The newspaper quoted an unnamed pilot from the Spanish airline Iberia who had been staying at the hotel and said that he heard a "bitter row" near the couple's rooms. According to the newspaper, Miss Campbell during the row threatened to commit suicide. It also quoted "medical sources" confirming that Miss Campbell had taken an overdose of Valium.

Señor Cortés was last night expected to perform the last of three dance shows called Gypsy Passion in Las Palmas. He has declined to comment on the incident.



Naomi Campbell in Paris yesterday. She worked on an advertisement for her own brand of jeans

Parents say doctors hid truth about dead son

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

FIVE doctors anxious to protect their reputations fraudulently covered up their negligent treatment of a ten-year-old boy, whose death could have been prevented, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Robert Powell died in hospital in 1990 of Addison's disease, a rare but treatable condition affecting the adrenal glands. His parents, William and Diane Powell, claim the five GPs were guilty of a conspiracy to hide the truth from them: that with the right treatment he could still be alive today.

Four months before his death he had become seriously ill and was admitted to hospital, where the disease was suspected and further tests planned but not carried out.

The hospital informed the boy's GPs of the adrenal problems and discharged him to their care, saying that if there were a recurrence of the illness they should refer him back to the hospital.

Robert became ill again 16 days before his death but despite knowing of his condition the doctors did not refer him back to the hospital until hours before he died, even though five of them saw him on seven separate occasions in that time, the court was told.



Robert Powell: he died from a rare disease

Mr Powell, 43, a motor mechanic from Ystradgynlais, South Wales, who is unable to work because of the trauma he suffered, and his wife, 41, are challenging a High Court judge's ruling in Cardiff that, even if the cover-up allegations were true, doctors were under no legal obligation or duty of care to tell parents the truth about a child's death.

The five accused doctors, from a health centre at Ystradgynlais, Keith Hughes, Elwyn Hughes, Paul Boladz, Michael Williams and Nicola Flower, denied wrongdoing.

Michael Powers, QC, counsel for the parents and himself

a doctor, told the court that the GPs were accused of altering medical notes, removing documents from Robert's file and replacing them with fabricated ones in an attempt to "minimise their liability" for his death.

For six years the couple have been fighting to discover the facts surrounding their son's death. Their case is regarded as a test of a family's rights to be told the truth after the death of a loved one.

Dr Powers said the "pathological grief reactions" from which both parents still suffer were a direct result of the GPs' "dishonest actions taken to preserve their professional reputations".

Mrs Powell suffers panic attacks at the thought of her son's death and has witnessed her husband's decline from a well-adjusted family man to an obsessed, anxious and depressed shadow of his former self, the court was told.

The doctors, he said, had been guilty of a "grave breach of trust", greatly compounding the parents' grief. Dr Powers quoted from Mr Powell's statement to a psychiatrist: "All I wanted was truth and honesty. We took our son to people we trusted and they've called us liars. I think they should be struck off."

Mr and Mrs Powell complained after their son's death to the local family practitioner committee, where four of the GPs were cleared of failing to render appropriate medical services and one was reprimanded. It was during this process that it became apparent to the parents that some of Robert's records had been substituted with forgeries.

Mr and Mrs Powell brought a civil action against both the hospital and the doctors, claiming not only damages arising out of Robert's death but also for the psychiatric damage caused to them.

The appeal continues.



William and Diane Powell, who have suffered severe reactions to the loss of their son

Students pelt tourists who disturbed their revision

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

STUDENTS at a Cambridge college have been threatened with expulsion after they pelted tourists in an open-topped bus with tomatoes when their revision was disturbed.

The increased popularity of Cambridge as a tourist destination has been a source of extra tension in the city since the onset of examinations. Rowdy parties in punts have already attracted the ire of academics concerned for their students' concentration.

Undergraduates at Sidney Sussex College decided to take matters into their own hands when the bus, with booming commentary, stopped outside their rooms. The Japanese tourists were bombarded with vegetables from

the college's first-year accommodation. It ended in a complaint from the bus company and a terse notice informing the perpetrators that their behaviour was unacceptable and that they could be sent down if it was repeated.

Dr Mark Hennings, an admissions tutor, said: "I take serious notice of vandalism which brings the college into disrepute. I warned them that if the matter continued then I would call in the dean to investigate, and he has powers to recommend expulsion."

Dr Hennings said the college had received no complaints from students about the noise from tour buses, but he acknowledged that it was a problem during the revision

period. Cambridge now attracts more than three million visitors a year, many of whom take guided tours around the colleges. They bring millions of pounds into the Cambridge economy, with the university being a prime attraction. However, the conflicting demands of tourism and academic life represents a perennial problem.

Roger Coey, chief environmental health officer of Cambridge City Council, said that tour companies were encouraged to use headphones, rather than microphones, to keep their customers informed. "There is a potential for there to be a problem, so I can understand this incident occurring."

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دولت اسلامی

Call for low prices at the people's opera

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Heritage Secretary wants to force the Royal Opera House to become the "people's opera" by widening the range of cheaper tickets and increasing the number of broadcast performances.

Chris Smith feels that the £78 million lottery grant earmarked for the company should only be awarded on condition that access for ordinary people is improved markedly. "It must not simply be an exclusive place that only the toffs go to," he said.

In an interview with *The Times*, he called for cheaper tickets for all performances, even those featuring superstars such as Luciano Pavarotti — when a single seat can cost £275. He also seeks an increase in the number of television broadcasts in the number of relays to spectators in the Covent Garden Piazza.

The house was "in receipt of very substantial public funds from the lottery and the Arts Council for their general running expenses", he said. "In return for that, we wish to see improved access."

Acknowledging that there were complications over television broadcasts of performances involving special rates, he said: "It is something other institutions in Britain have got round. Glyndebourne broadcasts quite a number of productions. It can't be beyond the wit of human-kind to sort out decent agreements with performers and technicians."

Broadcasts into the piazza "on a warm summer evening are a very good way of spreading the access of fine performances". Asked what might happen if the house did not meet his requirements, the Heritage Secretary said: "I won't contemplate failure at this stage."

He noted that the house had committed itself to improving access when it had submitted its application for lottery funding. That was one of his reasons for asking the Arts Council last week to conduct an external inquiry: "I'm anxious to hold them to those promises. It's top of my priorities. Their argument is that to attract international stars and

put on big productions, they need to shell out far more than modest houses do. My view is — if you want to charge £250 a seat to the corporate people in the stalls, make sure there is real access elsewhere."

He noted that a powerful performance did not necessarily require household names. "It's the quality that matters more than the name. Yes, it's good to get Pavarotti from time to time ... You need to balance names and quality and manage within a budget."

He added: "I suspect there are tensions within the organisation. There are some at the house who want to move in that direction and others who are resisting the idea. I want to get to the bottom of the conflicting interests ... I don't think that they've addressed this seriously enough."

Although the opera house long ago specified that £2.5 million from the lottery grant would be used to cover redundancies during the closure period, the subject would be explored by the inquiry. Mr Smith is "uncomfortable" about the lottery covering such payments, though he acknowledged that the full complement of staff would not be required for the 28 months that the Covent Garden house is closed.

At the house, Keith Cooper, a spokesman, said that they were "absolutely committed to

increasing access" but it was more complicated than anyone would imagine. Broadcasts into the piazza required the agreement of Westminster council and local traders: "It's not something we can automatically do as and when we chose." Safety issues were involved, he added, and they had to negotiate new rates with the unions. "There is an enormous willingness to try and address the issue."

He emphasised that a wide range of cheaper tickets were already available. Pavarotti appearances were "always going to be a premium event, just as Barbra Streisand is a premium event." He added: "We are earnestly engaged in looking at how we can make more lower-price seats available at each of our productions."



The Antarctic field camp where Sir Peter Maxwell Davies will spend a month in search of inspiration

Composer seeks sound of silence

By DALYA ALBERGE

SIR Peter Maxwell Davies will be composing his next symphony in Antarctica. Inspiration, he hopes, will come from "an absolute silence" quite unlike anything he has experienced, even around his remote croft in the Orkney Islands.

Sir Peter, 62, a passionate environmentalist, will be spending a month there, suffering for art's sake in temperatures that could dip to -20C. Home will be a tent, shared with scientists from the British Antarctic Survey.

He said that the experience would be "a great luxury. I hope the music that comes out of it will justify it." He plans to write a homage to Vaughan Williams's *Sinfonia Antarctica*, whose premiere he attended in 1953. Vaughan Williams drew on his imagination but Sir Peter was invited by the British Antarctic Survey.

Seeking to promote the region's significance, the organisation asked the Philharmonia Orchestra to recommend a composer. The expedition will involve fund-



Maxwell Davies

ing from the Philharmonia and the Arts Council.

Sir Peter said: "The Antarctic experience will be an encounter with nature, with silence and emptiness such as one can never experience in Europe. I look forward to coming to terms with these new experiences in the symphony I will write."

He leaves for the Rothera research station in December. The symphony will have its premiere at the Festival Hall, London, in 2001.

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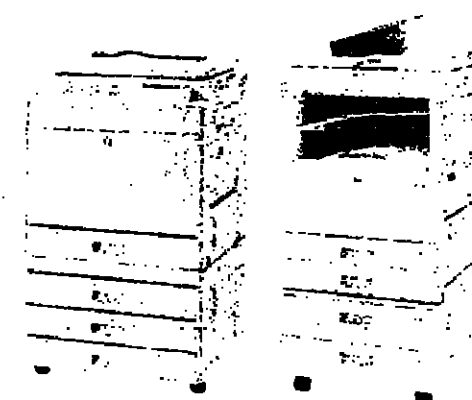
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Parents unite in garden tribute to murdered girls

French police are criticised for failure to find Britons' killers

By RICHARD DUCE

THE father of a French girl murdered in England yesterday was joined in prayer by the parents of two British girls killed in France as he dedicated a memorial garden to the victims of "senseless violence".

Villagers in Ombersley, Hereford and Worcester, close to where Celine Figard's body was found, raised £1,000 to create the garden in memory of the student who was murdered by a lorry driver as she hitched a lift in December 1995. It will feature plants that have links with France.

Bernard Figard and his wife, Martine, invited the parents of Caroline Dickinson and Joanna Parrish to yesterday's dedication at St Andrew's Church, Caroline, 13, was murdered on a school holiday in Brittany last year; Joanna, 20, was murdered in Auxerre seven years ago.

Standing by the memorial garden to Celine, 19, M Figard said: "In France it will always be remembered how the case of Celine was



Celine Figard

considered and handled and how many people have come together. The presence at our side of the parents of Caroline and Joanna is more than just a symbol. This garden should be a place of remembrance for all the young victims of blind and senseless violence. I would also like to associate

with them the families of people who murder. It cannot be easy for them to discover that a son, a husband, a father or a friend should be capable of such atrocity."

Roger Parrish, Joanna's father, said later: "We feel that the French authorities have not made as much effort as the British do." While British detectives painstakingly tracked down Celine's killer, Stuart Morgan, who is serving a life sentence, the murderers of Caroline and Joanna have not been found by French police.

John Dickinson, Caroline's father, said: "We had felt we ought to be here to show solidarity with the Figards and we are very impressed that they have included our daughter in their memorial. I understand that M Figard has spoken on numerous occasions on French television and radio to ask that people don't forget Joanna and Caroline. I believe that the investigation into Caroline's death is at a stage where fresh impetus is required urgently."



The parents of Caroline Dickinson and Joanna Parrish, who were murdered in France, in the memorial garden to Celine Figard

OU degree will widen access to legal career

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE first Open University degree course in law was announced yesterday in a move to broaden access to the profession.

The venture is a partnership between the Open University and the College of Law, which runs the professional one-year vocational courses for graduates wanting to be solicitors and barristers. Already 1,300 people have expressed interest in the course, which will cost £1,250 and will have to be completed in six years.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, said yesterday that the move was "an inspired step forward" which would help students of law who had child care or employment commitments or lived in areas with limited higher education facilities, and mature or disabled students.

In his first public speech since taking office, Lord Irvine said that the profession needed innovative people and innovative education. "This initiative provides a powerful stimulus to both."

Professor Nigel Savage, chief executive of the College of Law, said the venture would draw into the profession people from a wide variety of backgrounds. "This will be better for society and the profession."

The success of the profession, was, he said, in part due to those who had entered in

the 1960s and 1970s with the benefit of local authority grants. But the huge cut in such grants over the past ten years was threatening the profession's social diversity.

"Every year, like it or not, the legal profession is becoming more and more the preserve of the rich. The erosion of the value of the student grant, student loans and the possibility of university tuition fees makes the provision of an alternative route vital."

The first course will be offered from February 1998 for up to 1,500 students, with between 600-700 students on each of the three further courses to be introduced over the following three years. After completing the course, OU students will, like other law graduates, have to undertake further training to become solicitors or barristers.

Law is a very competitive subject at university, and mature students can struggle to secure a place. Now age should be no obstacle.

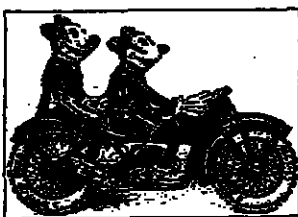
Lord Irvine said yesterday that he had told Lord Bridge of Harwich, the retired senior law lord, of the initiative. Lord Bridge enrolled as an OU undergraduate at the age of 75 on a series of courses in mathematics. He is now 80 and hopes to mark the millennium by graduating.

Law, pages 39, 41

Farmer rides off with £51,000 for Disney toy

A MICKEY Mouse clockwork toy, right, whose value was discovered on the Antiques Roadshow, sold for £51,000 at Christie's South Kensington yesterday (John Shaw writes). The tinplate motorcycle with Minnie riding pillion was made in Germany before the Nazis banned Disney toys and demanded Germanic ones.

Its original cardboard box attracted collectors from around the world. The winner was an American, who



paid more than double the estimate. The toy had been in the family of a Gloucestershire farmer since it was bought at Woolworths in the early 1930s.

Win tickets to the Lord's Test

The Times has eight pairs of the hottest tickets in town to give away for the second Test at Lord's. We have five for Thursday, two for Friday and a pair for Saturday, worth £66 a pair. For your chance to win one of the five pairs of tickets for Thursday call 0891 771 286 before midnight tonight with your answer to this question: By how many wickets did England win the first Test?

Winners will be chosen at random from all correct entries received and informed by telephone tomorrow. Normal T.V. competition rules apply. Calls cost 50c per minute.

In the beginning there was the pencil.

People found it handy for jotting things down. But soon their imaginations far outreached the pencil's functionality. There were stopgap innovations at first. The typewriter. The calculator. The word processor. Then at last, the PC was born - and so too the need for a software platform to release its full potential. Enter Microsoft® Windows®. It enabled a whole new generation of innovations - over 100,000 applications used by millions of people every day, sophisticated multimedia programs with live video and audio, powerful communications tools such as e-mail and software for exploring the Internet. The Windows operating system transformed the PC into the ultimate network computing device. People were suddenly empowered to do far more, better and faster. With Windows, even mobile users far away from their network could continue working productively as if they were still sitting in their office. But, while all this innovation provides significant benefits, we recognise that there are costs associated with it. Our mission? To continue to enhance the rich functionality of Windows-based computing, while containing and reducing the cost of ownership. It's called the Zero Administration for Windows Initiative - a long-term plan that over time will bring you a far better way to deploy and manage your organisation's desktops. Already we have announced the Zero Administration Kit. This is a set of tools, available this summer, to help simplify PC management and bring down cost of ownership by giving you a new level of control over your Microsoft Windows and Microsoft® Windows NT® Workstation-based computers. But this is just another step along the way. With each announcement we make, and every new product we release, you'll see that you really can have the best of both worlds - the rich Windows environment your users need, at a cost you can live with. And that's exactly the point.



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Charity puts spiritual healers to the test

Actors will 'treat' patients in £45,000 medical trial

BY ANJANA AHUJA

ACTORS willing to don crystal necklaces and a thoughtful expression are to take part in an unusual medical trial when the Wellcome Trust, the country's leading medical charity, pays £45,000 to put spiritual healing to the test.

The charity has awarded the grant to Neil Abbot and Edzard Ernst, Professor of Complementary Medicine at Exeter University, who will conduct a controlled clinical trial of whether spiritual healers do their patients any good. The money has come from the Sir Henry Wellcome Commemorative Award programme, a scheme to recognise "innovative, speculative, adventurous and novel" research proposals.

Professor Ernst said: "Healers try to transmit an undefined type of energy and love from themselves into the patient. They tend to pass their hands over the body without touching it. The way it is supposed to work, by transmitting energy, totally defies the laws of physics. However, many healers work for free, which shows they are very dedicated and must be driven by conviction."

The most difficult hurdle for such a trial is the "placebo effect", where the effectiveness of a therapy may be partially due to the volunteer's belief that it will do them good. Medical researchers overcome this problem by dividing volunteers into two groups and giving one group the real drug and the other group a placebo.

an identical-looking but inactive pill. Volunteers do not know which they are receiving: sometimes not even the researchers know which volunteers are being given the real drug.

Professor Ernst came up with two ways of eliminating the placebo effect in tests of spiritual healing. One was to hide the healer from view, behind a curtain. In some cases, a healer would be there. In others, the healer would be absent. The patient would not be told.

In the second scenario, which has yet to be approved by the ethics committee at Exeter University, actors will be "placebo" healers. They will observe real healers at work and copy them, with one crucial difference. Professor Ernst explained: "Instead of thinking about the patients, the actors will be asked to think about something banal, such as having a tooth extracted." Some patients in the trial will be treated by the actors, others by real healers.

After discussion with healers, Professor Ernst has decided to enlist 100 volunteers who suffer constant pain, such as back pain or arthritis, as there are fairly reliable techniques to assess the degree of pain experienced. Five healers from Exeter have agreed to participate. The studies should be completed within a year, and the results ready to publish soon afterwards.

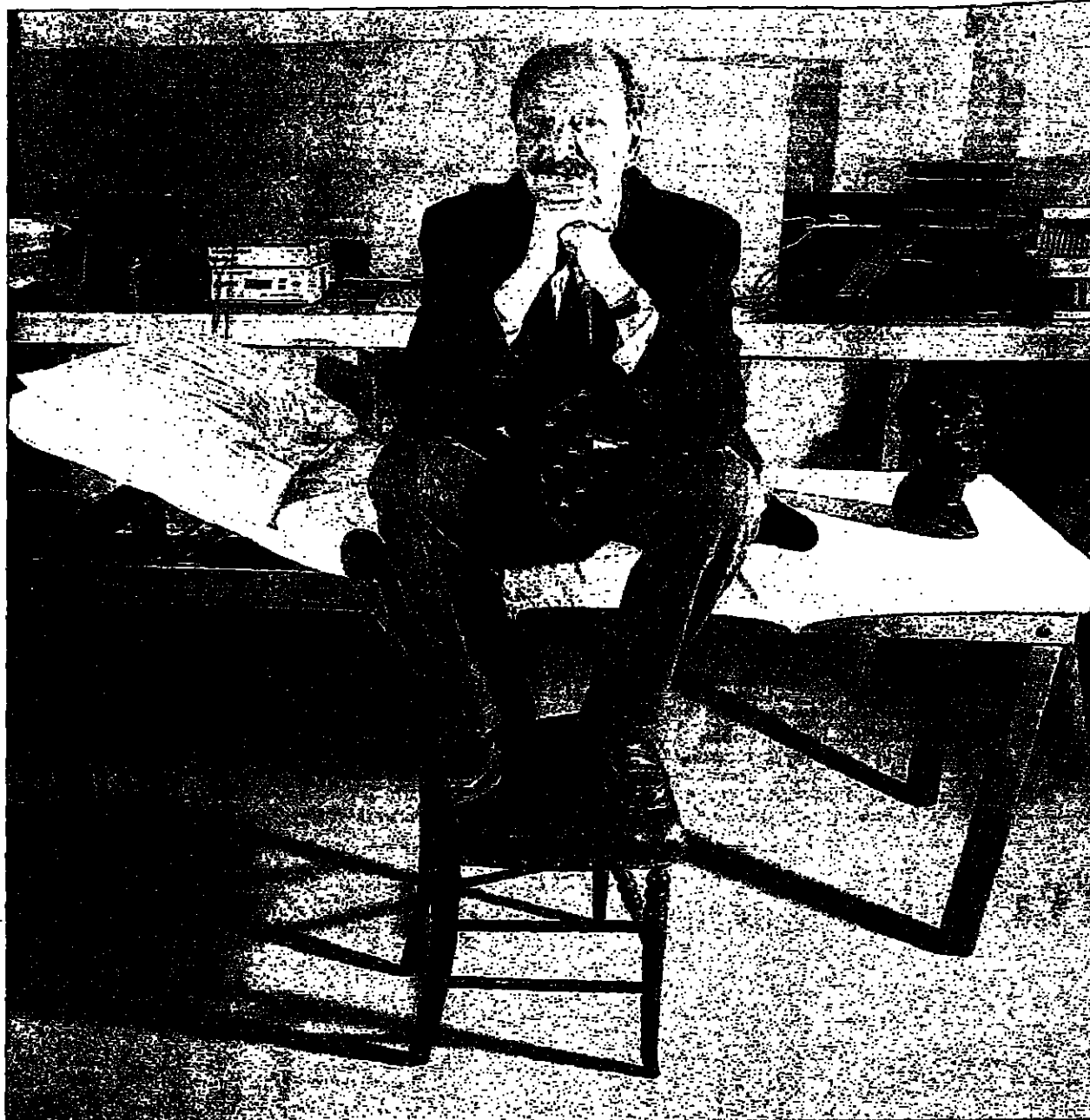
Dr Abbot will also be studying the ancient practice of wart

charming, where a healer is given the name of someone with warts or another skin condition and attempts to banish the disease purely by the power of thought.

Healer and patient need never meet, so patients do not know whether they are being prayed for, and the skin conditions can be photographed and measured to provide concrete evidence of the charmer's effectiveness.

Professor Ernst holds the only chair in complementary medicine in the world. "One in three people is using or has used a complementary therapy but we don't really know if the treatments are effective," he said. "At the very least, we should be making sure that people are not being harmed by them. There are about 150 therapies, so research can't be done on a shoestring."

In past studies Professor Ernst, who is also a medical doctor, and his team have focused on therapies such as acupuncture, homeopathy, herbalism and spinal manipulation. So far they have discovered that acupuncture can combat lower back pain but cannot help smokers to kick their habit. Practices involving spinal manipulation, such as osteopathy and chiropractic, are deemed to be worthwhile. Professor Ernst also plans to investigate the Bach Flower Remedies' Rescue Remedy, said to relieve stress, and chitosan, a powder of crab and prawn shells used in weight-loss pills.



Edzard Ernst has discovered that acupuncture can help lower back pain but will not help smokers to quit

Oil diet for cows cuts heart risk to humans

BY AUDREY MAGEE
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS have developed a natural milk that protects against heart disease and has reduced levels of saturated fat.

Biochemists in Cork fed rapeseed oil to grazing cows and discovered that their milk, butter and cheese was less fatty. However, they also found that the new product worked actively to protect the heart against disease. Hospital tests in Dublin showed that the milk had beneficial effects for people with high-cholesterol levels.

The milk, which has yet to be sold commercially, is produced by controlling the amount of grass consumed by the cow. A grazing cow normally produces unsaturated fats during rumination, which are converted to saturated forms as they pass through the udders.

But the Cork team at Teagasc, the Irish agriculture and food research body, found that replacing one tenth of the 16 kilograms of grass consumed by a cow each day with rape oil had startling effects.

The oil increases the production of oleic acid, an unsaturated fatty acid known to protect against heart disease. A diet high in oleic acid reduces the presence of the soluble proteins in the blood plasma associated with coronary heart disease while increasing the level of other soluble proteins known to protect against heart disease.

A team at the cardiology unit at Beaumont Hospital in Dublin carried out a study of 30 patients with cholesterol problems to gauge the effect of the modified milk, cheese and butter. Dr Declan O'Callaghan, a research lecturer, said that the patients benefited from the Cork dairy products through the increase of soluble proteins protecting against heart disease.

Gene study rejects compulsory testing for life insurance

BY IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE British are more likely to die from cancer and heart disease than people from 26 of the world's most developed nations. Both illnesses can be passed on in genes, but compulsory genetic testing for those applying for life insurance is too expensive and too complicated to be worthwhile, according to a survey published today.

The British are nearly four times more likely to die from cancer than the Mexicans and five times more likely than the French to die of heart

diseases. The Chinese, Russians, Poles and Indians all suffer less from them. The Japanese and Canadians are among the five least affected by both.

There has been rapid progress in identifying genes linked to human disease since 1989, when scientists discovered the one which causes cystic fibrosis. About 90 per cent of all human genes have now been uncovered by the worldwide Human Genome Project, with more than 5,000 disease-causing genetic mutations identified. Commercial tests exist to check for predispositions to Alzheimer's and breast

cancer. Hundreds more will soon be on the market.

Fears that people with disease-prone genes could become uninsurable if tests were compulsory have led Belgium, Norway and Austria and 13 American states to ban their use. France has a five-year moratorium on such tests, while the Dutch temporarily allow them only on policies worth more than £70,000.

The British insurance industry has deferred any decision until March 1999, but it requires anyone seeking a mortgage-linked policy to disclose the results of any genetic test they have taken. Insurers

guarantee not to take the findings into account for policies of £100,000 or less, saying they need to know only to help to assess risk generally.

They argue that information about the proportion of people suffering from genetic-related diseases can help them to provide affordable coverage for health care. This is because diseases such as Alzheimer's can prove far more costly to an insurer than an illness which brings sudden death.

But the Economist Intelligence Unit has found that so many genes are involved in diseases that a test for all of them would be prohibitive-

ly expensive. A comprehensive test for breast cancer genes costs £1,500, yet it would miss 20 per cent of cases.

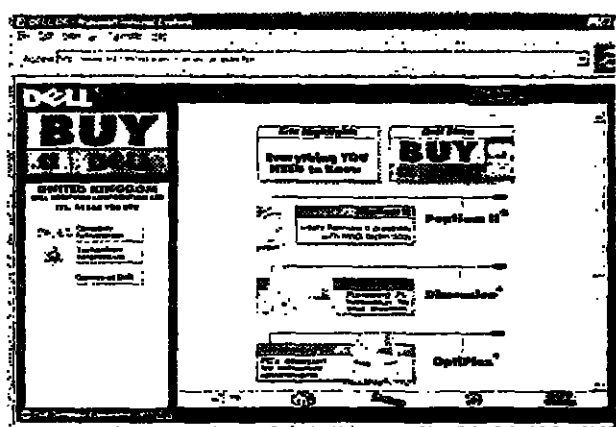
Hugh Watkins, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Oxford, found that, even with relatively simple genetic disorders, mutations can have different effects. He thinks that scientists have over-promoted the predictive value of genetic testing. "With family histories in hand and banks of tests for blood pressure, cholesterol and heart functions, the added complexity and expense of performing genetic tests for common diseases is look-

ing less and less justifiable. Fears that genetic screening might bring about the breakdown of the principle of life insurance therefore look groundless," the report says.

Parents can check how often their children eat crisps and chips at school thanks to a payment card introduced by a Kent headmaster.

Concern over unhealthy eating habits led Gordon Clubb, of Oldborough Manor Community School in Maidstone, to introduce a swipe-card system for all food purchases. Daily printouts are available to parents and Mr Clubb plans prizes for the healthiest eater of the term.

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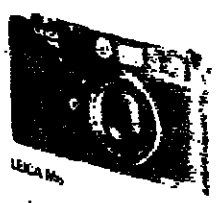
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The Alderney breakwater, begun in 1847, is one of the great feats of 19th-century marine engineering. It was conceived at a time of great fears of French attack, which were fuelled by the coup staged by Napoleon III in 1851.

**BY MARCUS BINNEY
AND PHILIP JEUNE**

EMOTIONS are running high on Alderney over plans to allow one of the island's most prominent landmarks, a massive Victorian breakwater, to fall into ruin.

The Channel Island is furious about the proposal from neighbouring Guernsey, which is responsible for the maintenance of the breakwater at Brave Harbour.

Guernsey's Board of Administration says that to repair the breakwater will cost £40 million, which it cannot afford. Instead, it proposes to spend £16.6 million on a small breakwater and 150-berth marina.

The largest crowds seen in Alderney (pop. 2,300) for 50 years have packed stormy public meetings, posters have sprung up around the capital, St Anne's, and 6ft "Save me!" graffiti has

appeared on the breakwater wall. There has even been talk of blockading the Guernsey capital of St Peter Port — a gesture normally the preserve of militant French fishermen.

The breakwater, begun in 1847, is one of the great feats of 19th-century marine engineering. At low tide, it has a depth of 130ft below water. The States of Guernsey will vote next week on the proposal for a replacement.

Roy Bisson, a Guernsey deputy, is seeking a one-year delay to reconsider the cost of continued maintenance.

Defenders of the breakwater say trouble began in 1962 when the Department of the Environment stopped tipping stone off the breakwater onto the mount below. By restarting tipping, they say, the breakwater can be maintained indefinitely at reasonable cost. The breakwater is maintained by

eight permanent staff, assisted by six divers during the summer.

Mr Bisson said: "Rather than exhaust Guernsey's reserve on a new harbour wall. I believe we can safeguard the existing break-water for an extra £300,000 a year, which will provide local employment, whereas a new harbour wall would have to be built by outside contractors."

maintain the breakwater and that if it is left to decay the high-spending visiting yachtsmen will cease to visit the harbour. There are also serious concerns among residents about the effect of long-term coastal erosion in Braye bay.

The breakwater, which carries the Channel Islands' only working railway, built to maintain it, bears witness to British fears of French invasion during the 19th century. In the 1840s the Admiral-

ty feared that the French would rush thousands of troops across the Channel from Cherbourg. Alderney, just 25 miles from Cherbourg, and the new harbour at Portland were "the eyes" of the Channel, the defence against French attack.

Napoleon III's *coup d'état* in 1851 fuelled British fears, and by 1864 the breakwater had reached 1,600 yards. The outer 600 yards was later abandoned to form a reef.

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN PHUKET

THE son of a Scottish naturalist was the talk of the expatriate community on the Thai island of Phuket because he frolicked with naked seagypsy children, a court was told yesterday.

However, a witness said that James Fraser Darling, 47, son of Sir Frank Fraser Darling, a naturalist and ornithologist, was not a paedophile, but just a lonely man interested in local culture.

Bruce Stanley, 49, a Canadian teacher and journalist, told Phuket Town Criminal Court that he went on several trips with Mr Fraser Darling and the children and never saw anything untoward. The boys, he said, always took off their clothes, but that was not unusual.

Mr Stanley was shown pictures of naked gypsy boys in tourist magazines by defence counsel. "Yes, this is how they normally are," he said. The prosecution then showed an explicit photograph allegedly taken by Mr Fraser Darling and asked if it was pornographic. "It's not one I care for," Mr Stanley replied.

He described his friend, also a teacher, as a lonely man who wanted to become involved in the life of the village.

"James was in charge of the English curriculum. He was very popular with the students, who would come to see him after school for extra help. I took him home several times and on one occasion there were *chao lae* [sea gypsies] in his house. But this seemed to be irritating to him.

"I think the children were like his family. He was like an uncle to them. He was very interested in their culture and worried about the impact of tourists on their village."

He said there had been concern in the expatriate community and he told Mr Fraser Darling so. Mr Stanley said they had often exchanged books, but he had not seen one that carried an article by a J. Darling describing Roman orgies with boys.

Outside the court he said: "James is just eccentric. He imagines he is Emperor Nero, that he has been reborn as Emperor Nero. But he is a very educated man."

Mr Fraser Darling, from Edinburgh, denies 18 charges of indecency with young boys and separating the boys from their parents. According to prosecution testimony, he lured a number of young sea gypsies, who live by begging, fishing and diving for pearl oysters, to commit sexual acts after he showered them with gifts.

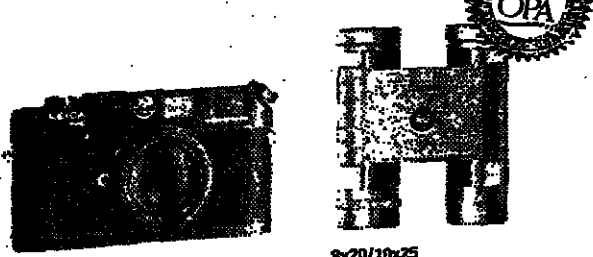
He told the court that he was not the J. Darling who had written an essay for a paedophile magazine about sex with pearl-diving boys in Roman times. "My name is Fraser Darling, not Darling," he said.

The case was investigated by the Children's Rights Protection Centre in Bangkok, Phuket ChildWatch and the Coalition to Fight Against Child Exploitation. The case is being monitored by the Thai Interior Ministry, which is concerned about foreign paedophiles. The trial continues.



Fraser Darling: denied charges of indecency

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Major deserves more than to be left in lonely obscurity

John Major has become the forgotten man of Tory politics — playing no public part in the leadership election, eager to hand over to his successor and ignored by fellow Tory MPs. Yet Mr Major deserves better of his party after helping to ensure that it had an unexpected five more years in office.

He will this week step into the lonely limbo of the former party leader still in middle age. Aged 54, he is the youngest former Prime Minister to return to the back benches for more than a century. Most PMs leave Downing Street

in their 60s or 70s, moving immediately or within a few years to the House of Lords, becoming avuncular or, occasionally, bitter elder statesmen.

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

forced out of office, and for at least the first ten of these he was seen as a potentially disruptive force.

Of recent examples, Harold Wilson was the same age as Mr Major when Labour lost the 1970 election, but unexpectedly returned to office three and a half years later before retiring on his 60th birthday. Sir Edward Heath has been a brooding presence for more than 23 years, so far, since ceasing to be Prime Minister at the

age of 57. Having spent nine arduous years as Labour leader, Neil Kinnock stepped down at the age of 50, then began another career as a European Commissioner.

Mr Major will no doubt suffer a period of obscurity. New leaders need to establish a distance from their predecessors, especially ones who have just lost an election. Mr Major is, of all people, sensitive to this need. He will take a low profile for the time being, defending his successor if necessary against party critics who plagued him.

However, he has clear-cut views on the future of the Tory party. Before the election he was already involved in discussions about reform of the party organisation, of selecting candidates and of choosing the leader. Mr Major has told friends that the present system of electing the leader must be scrapped. He favours an electoral college with MPs having well over half the votes and ordinary party members more than the fifth proposed so far. This would entail the creation of a national membership scheme. Party organisation also needs to be streamlined to get the best out of the pool of agents,

together with a fast-track system for putting high-quality candidates who have been successful businessmen and the like onto parliamentary short lists, even if they have not served a long apprenticeship in local party work.

Mr Major is not a pessimist. He does not seem bitter to friends, having drawn a line over past events, though he needs to make up his mind before too long whether he wants to remain in politics. He believes that his party can recover more quickly than is commonly supposed, pointing to the big shifts in both France and

Canada, and he argues that the public has not voted for a big change in policy. He sees problems for Labour in reconciling its promises on public spending and local government. Perhaps, but the Blair Government has the opportunity to reshape the policy agenda on its terms. Above all, Mr Major has been making clear his belief that the Tories must now have the middle ground. He may now have little or no influence at Westminster, but he still has a feel for the Tory party in the country.

PETER RIDDELL

Labour panel calls for action against bribery claim MP

By Jill Sherman, Gillian Bowditch and Shirley English

MOHAMMED Sarwar, the Labour MP accused of bribing a rival candidate at the general election, faces internal exile in the party after an interim report recommended disciplinary action against him.

Mr Sarwar, Britain's first Muslim MP, is expected to have the whip suspended next week, pending the outcome of police inquiries into allegations that he paid a fringe party candidate in Glasgow Govan £5,000 to scale down his campaign.

The interim report by an inquiry panel set up last month found there was a case to be answered for "action grossly detrimental to the party". The report also recommends suspending him from being able to hold office in the party or represent Labour at any functions.

Last night Mr Sarwar continued to protest his innocence, saying that he was confident that the police inquiries would clear his name. He issued a statement that said: "I sincerely hope that once this has happened, the National Executive will lift the suspension. In the meantime I will continue to serve the Labour Party and the people of Govan to the best of my ability."

If the National Executive Committee endorses the report next Wednesday, Mr

Sarwar looks certain to be ostracised, being unable to attend any meetings of the parliamentary party or sit on backbench or cross-party committees. Although he will be expected to vote with Labour, he will not receive any guidance from the Whips' Office.

Under the revised disciplinary code of conduct for Labour MPs, the parliamentary party can decide to remove rights and privileges. Nick Brown, the Chief Whip, will also seek powers at tomorrow's meeting of the parliamentary party to remove the whip from Mr Sarwar. Both measures would take effect from next Wednesday.

The interim report says that there is a "prima facie" case that Mr Sarwar has broken

party rules. Labour sources said the party would not expel him at this stage although this would almost certainly happen if Strathclyde police found evidence against him. A party official said: "We have taken the strongest action we have at our disposal at this time."

The report, which was approved by Labour's development and organisation committee yesterday, also recommended that investigations should be frozen until the police inquiry was completed.

Mr Sarwar, 44, is fighting claims that he gave £5,000 to Islam Badar, who stood as an Independent Labour candidate. Mr Sarwar has admitted giving the money to Mr Badar, but says that it was a loan. He is suing the *News of the World* over its publication of the bribery allegations.

The Liberal Democrats and the Scottish National Party, which was narrowly beaten by Labour in Govan, accused Labour of "a fudge". The SNP said the Government had failed the first test of its pledge to be tough on sleaze.

Labour's development and organisation committee has not recommended that disciplinary action be taken against any members of the Govan constituency party. Instead it has recommended a restructuring based on nine



Mohammed Sarwar: denies bribery claim and says police will find him innocent

branches rather than the present three. The change will take place in September and elections for new office bearers will take place in October.

Yesterday's ruling means that Mr Sarwar will automatically lose his seat on the Scottish Executive Committee of the Labour Party. He is one

of 38 members of the committee, which is controlled by adherents of new Labour. His place will be taken by Michael Ross, a Motherwell councillor and a Blairite.

Catherine Jack, a member of Govan Labour Party, said that Mr Sarwar should resign. Ms Jack, who is associated

with Mike Watson's camp, the former MP who challenged Mr Sarwar in a bitter contest for the Govan nomination, said: "It doesn't clear anything up for Govan. It just leaves us with very little representation in Parliament. Mr Sarwar should do the honourable thing."



Brown: will seek removal of the whip

Ministers beat bid to amend handgun ban

By Polly Newton, Political Reporter

THE Government rejected calls yesterday to exempt certain types of small-calibre pistol from its extension to the ban on handguns, insisting that it would make "a nonsense" of the legislation.

Conservative MPs and one Labour MP argued during the committee stage of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill that the total ban backed by the Government would prevent British target shooters from practising their sport.

Legislation passed at the beginning of this year banned ownership of all but .22 calibre pistols, which must be kept at registered secure gun clubs. Those weapons would be outlawed under the new Bill.

Nicholas Soames, Tory former Armed Forces Minister, described the Bill as "a pernicious and unjust piece of legislation". Supporting an amendment that would have allowed ownership of a .22 calibre pistol that could not hold more than one cartridge and had not been converted from a multi-shot design, Mr Soames said: "This is a sensible, careful, deliberate and pragmatic attempt to allow Great Britain to remain where she rightly is at the summit of what is a very important sport."

Frank Cook, Labour MP for Stockton South, said that no one would choose a .22 calibre pistol as a murder weapon. Such guns were relatively long and difficult to conceal. "It

would be like walking down the street with a billiard cue."

Michael Colvin, the Tory MP who tabled the amendment, said that after the Dunblane killings it was not surprising that MPs had taken seriously the demands for a ban on all handguns. But he added: "I don't believe they really thought this one through. I don't think they gave serious consideration to the impact of a ban on all .22 calibre handguns."

Ann Widdecombe, the former Home Office Minister, said Labour supporters of a total ban had argued that they wanted to prevent another massacre. If Thomas Hamilton, who carried out the Dunblane massacre, had been armed with a single shot .22 calibre pistol, "he could have been stopped and he could have been overpowered".

But Alun Michael, Minister of State at the Home Office, said it was "neither practical nor safe" to allow the exemption proposed by the amendment. "A single shot pistol is capable of being lethal, portable and easy to conceal."

The amendment was defeated by 333 votes to 123.

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY In the Commons, questions to Scottish ministers, the Leader of the Commons and the Commons Commission; Local Government Finance (Supplementary Credit Approval) Bill, second reading; Lashburn debate on regulation of auditors. In the Lords, Riddell debate on Scotland and Wales Bill, second reading.

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Learner drivers face more studying

DRIVING instructors gave warning last night that more learners will fail their written tests because of an increase in the range of questions (Arthur Leathley writes).

The list of potential questions from which each test is compiled has nearly doubled to 700, greatly increasing the amount of preparation needed to ensure a pass.

The change, which will be effective from July 28, comes a year after the written tests were introduced. The pass mark has been increased once but examiners are still concerned that too many people are passing through rote learning without fully understanding the theory of driving.

Driving instructors, however, fear that more learners will fail the written test and be unable to book their practical test date. Driving schools could then suffer from a loss of business. Richard Glover, chief executive of the British School of Motoring, said: "Some people don't take any driving instruction until they pass the theory."

The biggest study of urban

Prescott keen to revive plan for city road tolls

By Arthur Leathley, Transport Correspondent

JOHN PRESCOTT is trying to revive plans to combat pollution and traffic congestion by charging motorists for driving in large towns and cities.

The Deputy Prime Minister, who is also Transport and Environment Secretary, wants an early review of the benefits of road charges, possibly of £4 per vehicle. He is keen to make such a scheme a main element of the White Paper on the Government's plans to improve public transport and reduce people's dependency on the car.

Sir George Young, the previous Transport Secretary, decided that technical difficulties in introducing a traffic-charging system made it impractical in the short term. Mr Prescott, however, believes that it could be the best way of controlling traffic on some of the busiest urban routes, especially around London. Officials have been told to make charging a central part of the nine-month review of transport that will precede the White Paper to be published next spring.

The biggest study of urban

traffic charging suggested a £4 fee for driving into London and estimated that such a charge could reduce the number of inward journeys by 210 per cent, and the number of journeys within the capital by 40 per cent. Business and freight operators have opposed the idea of traffic charging but ministers believe that they can be won over if the scheme eases peak-time congestion.

Among suggestions that have been looked at in the past



Jackson: wants trains to make room for cyclists

are peak and non-peak charges to encourage motorists to use the main routes out of business hours when possible. The smart-card technology that is crucial to a charging system is expected to improve enormously over the next two years, making the prospect of a trial scheme more likely.

Yesterday Glenda Jackson, the Transport Minister, backed a new code of practice intended to encourage train operators to provide a better service for cyclists. With fewer trains now having a guard's van, bicycles are more difficult to accommodate and on many services are banned at peak times.

Ms Jackson presented the first Cycle Mark award to Anglia Railways, which has led the privatised operators in providing a new range of cycle racks on some of its trains. She said that practical measures were needed to offer the public a greater choice of transport, adding: "I wholly support this drive to improve standards of service for cyclists on the railways."

Ashdown urges joint approach on welfare

By Polly Newton, Political Reporter

PADDY ASHDOWN has called for politicians on all sides to work together on reforming the welfare system.

In his first major speech since the general election, the Liberal Democrat leader said that policymakers should be prepared to consider radical change wherever the system was not working satisfactorily. "Nothing poses a greater threat to the reform of our welfare state than knee-jerk deference to previous methods or traditional structures - the fatalistic assumption that this can't be improved, that that can't be touched, that the status quo is set in stone."

Mr Ashdown, speaking at Birmingham University, proposed ending the funding of pensions through National In-

surance in favour of a compulsory personal scheme regulated by the State but allowing people a choice of where to invest their contributions.

The idea is similar in principle to the one that was put forward by the Tories before the election and which was cited by Labour during the campaign as evidence that they planned to abolish the state pension.

Mr Ashdown said that his party was willing to work with others on welfare reform. "Without some degree of consensus, any one party's attempts at sensible reform will always be at risk from politicians ready to play on people's natural fear of change by opposing everything put forward."

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BRITISH AIR

Dead land dealer 'was tortured by Arafat's agents'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Palestinian campaign against Arabs suspected of selling land to Jews intensified yesterday as details of the death of a fourth land merchant were revealed and Palestinian legislators began drafting a law to brand such sales a "great treason".

Hakem Kamhawi, 57, died on Sunday at a hospital in the increasingly lawless Palestinian self-rule town of Ramallah, where the bodies of the three previous land dealers murdered by Palestinian hit squads have been dumped since the Justice Minister announced last month that selling property to Jews was a capital offence.

The land issue, together with the continuing failure of the latest Egyptian diplomatic initiative, is seen as the main reason behind the new upsurge of Israeli-Palestinian violence which raged yesterday for a third day, leaving at least 38 Palestinians wounded in Hebron by Israeli troops and an Arab youth shot and wounded by a Jewish settler in the Gaza Strip.

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, last night accused Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority of provoking the new wave of violence and said that Palestinian police were not taking action to prevent the attacks on Israeli targets.

International condemnation of the land-related murders,

including a threat by the United States to cut off aid to the Palestinian Authority, has had no effect. Palestinian protesters, in renewed violence that has left more than 80 Arabs injured in the past three days, have begun carrying banners declaring "Land or death".

The Palestinian security services, implicated in the land killings, made an ineffective attempt to cover up the circumstances of the latest death, claiming alternately that Mr Kamhawi had committed suicide or died of a heart attack.

His widow, Ansaf, told journalists that these official claims were untrue. She said her husband had no reason to take his life. "He would never have committed suicide," she added in an interview which could bring retaliation from Mr Arafat's security agents. "I saw his body. It showed signs of torture." He was buried in Nablus on Sunday.

Although mystery shrouded some details of Mr Kamhawi's final weeks, it emerged that he was initially arrested in the Palestinian-run city of Nablus two weeks ago accused of selling 15 acres of land to Jewish settlers. He was then sent to a notorious interrogation centre in Jericho where other Arab suspects have been savagely tortured in the past.

According to Palestinian sources, his questioning was conducted by agents of the

same unit of the Palestinian security service implicated in the deaths of two of the three land dealers already murdered. A fourth was rescued by Israeli police en route to prison in Ramallah after being kidnapped by a Palestinian death squad. Others are now living in hiding.

There have been no convincing expressions of remorse from Palestinian officials at the new spate of gangland-style killings. Freih Abu Medein, the Palestinian Justice Minister, boasted that another 20 Palestinians are now under interrogation on suspicion of selling land to Jews.

Mr Netanyahu has dismissed the new policy of officially inspired murders as racist. Israel plans to submit a formal complaint to the United Nations Committee on Human Rights.

Leading article, page 23



A Jewish settler in the Gaza Strip tries to run down Palestinian television journalists in his tractor yesterday. Earlier he fired pistol shots, wounding one Palestinian in the knee. The media had gone to meet Palestinians protesting for the past week against land confiscations by Jewish settlers

Militants force pop singer to cancel

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

THE Irish singer Sinéad O'Connor yesterday cancelled her appearance on Saturday at a Jerusalem peace concert after receiving a death threat from Jewish militants.

The threat, which came in a call to the British Embassy in Tel Aviv, said O'Connor would be killed if she set foot in Israel. The concert is to promote joint sovereignty of Jerusalem.

In the wake of the 1995 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, at a peace rally in Tel Aviv by a right-wing extremist, the threat was treated extremely seriously.

O'Connor said in her statement: "I was approached to appear at the proposed concert on June 21 on the basis of peace and reconciliation by a group called The Jerusalem Link, a Palestinian and Israeli women's joint venture for peace."

"Once I was made aware that a threat had been issued, I immediately cancelled my appearance. I am the mother



O'Connor: feared for herself and her band

of two young children: I will not do anything that could jeopardise their future, my own safety and the safety of the musicians and crew that work with me."

The Israeli organisers of the open-air concert reacted to the cancellation with dismay. "This is a sad day for Israeli democracy," said Dalia Shelef, one of the concert's organisers. "These extreme rightwingers have shown that they can dictate how the rest of us must live our lives just with a single threat of violence."

After working in the world's most dangerous trouble spots, Don McCullin brings the shutters down at home.



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Watergate's poison of mistrust lingers on

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

EXACTLY 25 years after Watergate, most Americans view the scandal as a watershed which led to a universal distrust in the Government.

As America tries to exorcise the ghosts of the break-in on June 17, 1972, and the resignation of President Nixon two years later, a survey by *Time* magazine found that 78 per cent of the country believed Watergate had diminished the credibility of the presidency. While some experts view the scandal as a reaffirmation of America's constitutional democracy at work, many involved said Watergate still cast a long shadow over the process of government.

Howard Baker, the former Republican senator who gained fame on the Watergate committee for his insistent question "What did the President know and when did he know it?", said the country had failed to recover from the consequences. "My direct concern about Watergate," he said, "other than the obvious fact that we went through a great political trauma, is that

the example of Watergate and the cynicism that followed may turn off young men and women who ought to be in government and who ought to be aspiring to political office."

In practical terms, Watergate resulted in the most sweeping reform of election law. Previously, individuals could donate unlimited amounts of money to candidates. Foreign donations were

not banned. Hours before Richard Nixon announced his resignation from the presidency, however, Congress passed legislation which blocked large-scale contributions. The 1974 Bill limited individual donations to \$1,000 (\$625) a candidate, restricted spending in congressional races, and created the Federal Election Commission.

Two years later the Supreme Court ruled the spending limits to be violations of free-speech rights, leading to an explosion of political action committees that now spend millions of dollars promoting candidates.

Loopholes provided ambitious politicians with an easy means of seeking unregulated donations of "soft money", contributions now central to the investigation into irregular fundraising for President Clinton's re-election last year.

The dual legacy of Watergate remains both a mistrust of government and the inability of America's politicians to effect serious campaign finance reform. But in the capital yesterday the event took a theatrical turn when the Watergate Hotel hosted a "Break-In Party" featuring waiters dressed as Secret Service agents and copies of the *Washington Post* articles about the crime.

Paul Lesper, one of the police officers who arrested the burglars at the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee, was joined



Carl Bernstein, left, and Robert Woodward, *Washington Post* journalists who uncovered the Watergate scandal



President Nixon announces his resignation in 1974

at the hotel by Patrick Butters, a Nixon impersonator. The official anniversary today will be marked in Room 723 at the Premier Hotel across the road, the look-out post for the five burglars. For six months the room has been refurbished with various memorabilia, including the wigs used by the

four men, their walkie-talkies and a copy of the President's resignation letter.

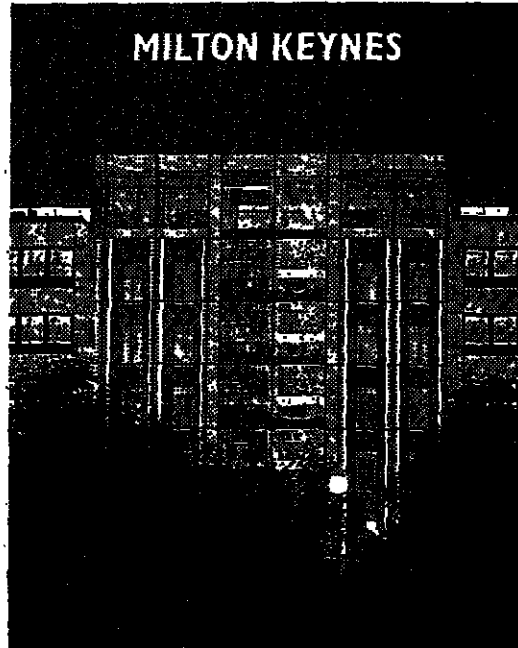
Gordon Liddy, the former White House adviser turned talkshow host, will broadcast his show from the Premier in what he promises will be a no-holds-barred account of what took place when

his accomplices broke into the Watergate building.

For aficionados the most burning question still remains the identity of Deep Throat, the shadowy figure who leaked information to Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the two *Washington Post* reporters who broke the

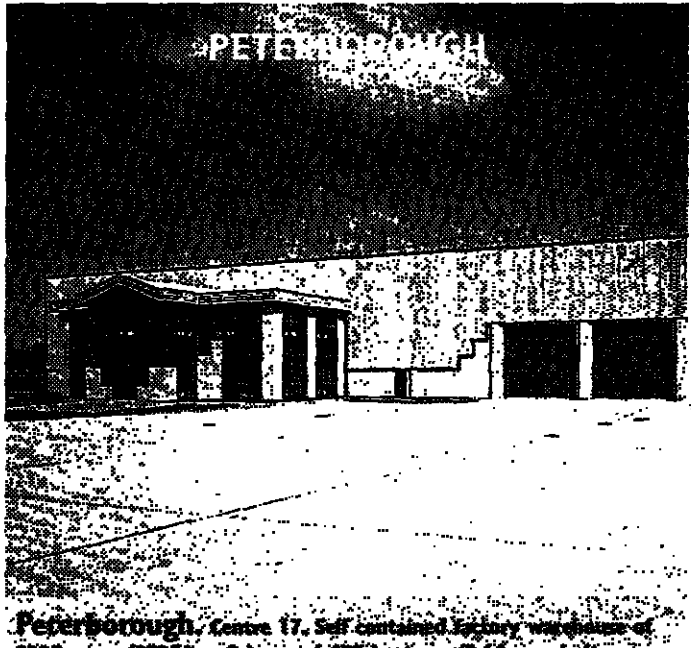
story. The duo have said they will only reveal their source when he dies.

Their former editor, Ben Bradlee, said: "I took Woodward for a walk in McPherson Square and said, 'It's time that I have the name' and he gave it to me ... I've never told a soul."



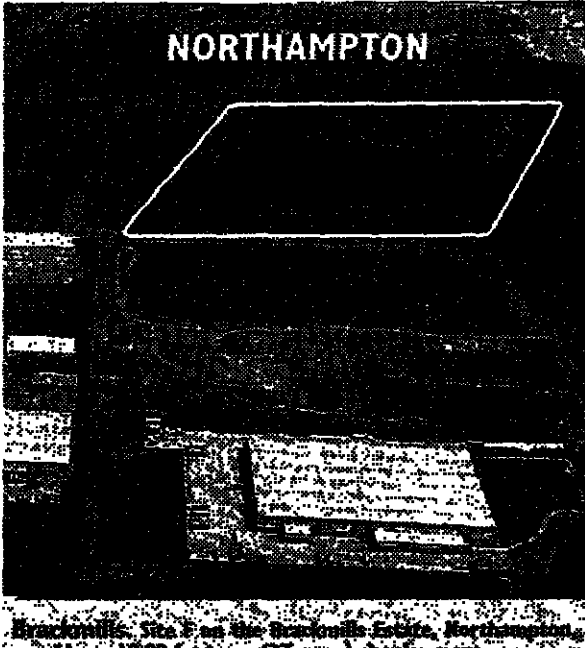
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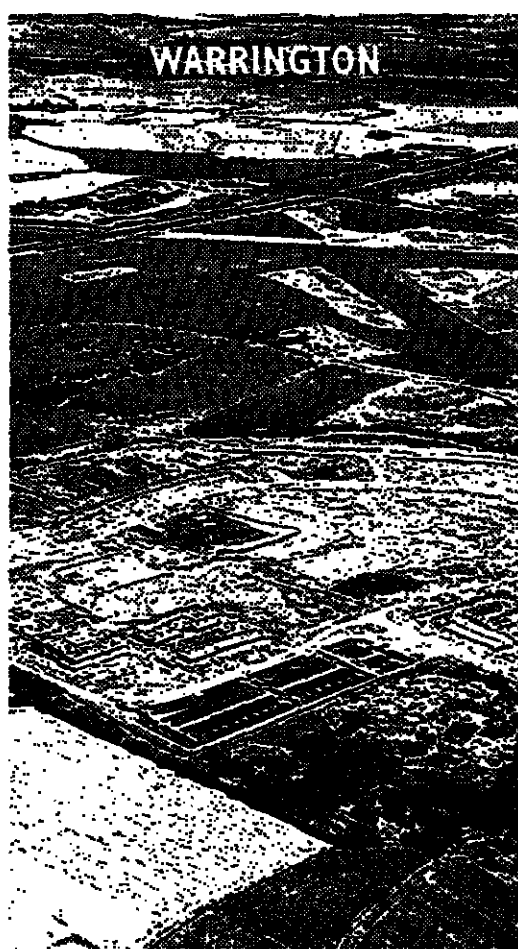
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Plan for slavery apology attacked

By TOM RHODES

PRESIDENT Clinton was criticised yesterday for considering making an official apology to black Americans for slavery.

A bipartisan group in Congress is urging Mr Clinton to make the statement as part of his year-long programme to bridge the racial divide in the United States.

Stopping just short of making a commitment to the move, the President said: "Surely every American knows that slavery was wrong and that we paid a terrible price for it, and that we have to keep repairing that."

But Trent Lott, the leader of the Republican majority in the Senate, said he would probably oppose such an apology if it ever came to a vote. Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, said: "We can go back and have all sorts of apologies. But will one more child read because of it?"

Ward Connerly, the black businessman who championed Proposition 209, anti-affirmative action legislation in California, said: "Apologising for slavery is probably one of the dumbest things anyone could do."

Epidemic brings call to ease Cuba ban

By DAVID ADAMS
LATIN AMERICA
CORRESPONDENT

POLITICIANS and health experts in the United States are preparing to unveil a new challenge to the American trade embargo against Cuba, arguing that it has severely undermined health conditions on the Communist island.

Tomorrow a bipartisan coalition in the US Congress is due to announce the introduction of the Cuban Humanitarian Trade Act, which seeks to end restrictions on the sale of food and medicine to Cuba. It comes amid reports of a viral epidemic in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba.

The Bill has attracted surprising support among Republicans, who have traditionally backed efforts to tighten the economic noose on Cuba. "How can a great nation like the US target Cuba's civilians by denying them necessary medicine?" asked Malcolm Wallop, a former Republican senator lobbying for the Bill.

Supporters of the Bill say Cuba's health system was one of the world's most effective until a series of US measures to tighten the embargo were adopted by Congress in the last five years.

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Turncoats 'hope to take Pol Pot alive within days'

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH

BREAKAWAY Khmer Rouge fighters were yesterday closing in on their former leader, Pol Pot, hoping to capture him alive in the next few days, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the Cambodian First Co-Prime Minister, said.

The Khmer Rouge rebels, now allied to the Government, are pursuing their ailing former "Brother Number One" in heavily forested northern Cambodia. If captured, he would be handed over to an international tribunal for judgment, Prince Ranariddh said. Under Pol Pot's rule in the 1970s, one million Cambodians were executed or died of hunger and disease.

The Prince said his new Khmer Rouge allies had intercepted a convoy of ten lorries heading for the Thai border. Six senior Khmer Rouge officials wishing to discuss surrender with the Government in Phnom Penh were freed, but four lorries of Khmer Rouge members escaped. The four vehicles were carrying Pol Pot and would be peace-makers - Khieu Samphan, a Khmer Rouge leader, and Nuon Chea, "Brother Number Two". Prince Ranariddh said: "Pol Pot does not want Khieu Samphan to surrender."

About 95 per cent of Pol Pot's hardline faction had broken with their leader and

would announce tomorrow their intention to join the Cambodian armed forces, the Prince said. "It is the real end of the Khmer Rouge and is good for peace in Asia," he added.

However, Hun Sen, the Second Co-Prime Minister, whose former Communist Cambodian People's Party shares power with Prince Ranariddh's royalist grouping, Funcinpec, demanded the arrest of Khmer Rouge leaders and said that anyone negotiating with them was breaking the law.

"The Khmer Rouge have died militarily but now some people want to bring them back to life politically," Hun Sen said. "I will accuse anyone who helps the Khmer Rouge or brings them to Phnom Penh of breaking the law."

Prince Ranariddh, speaking at a school opening just out-

side Phnom Penh, said Khieu Samphan had told his aides that Christopher Howes, the British mine-clearance expert captured at Angkor Wat in 1995, was with a Khmer Rouge official named "Sarouen" in Pol Pot's entourage. There was no independent confirmation of this, however.

"Pol Pot, dead or alive, has been set up as the scapegoat for all the other surviving Khmer Rouge leaders who will now be joining Ranariddh's side in opposition to Hun Sen," one diplomat said.

Under Prince Ranariddh's plans, the Khmer Rouge will not have disappeared: so-called moderate leaders such as Khieu Samphan, who wrote the blueprint for the murderous agrarian revolution that emptied the cities, will be permitted to form a new party.

Moreover, analysts believe it is unlikely that Pol Pot will ever stand trial. Most leading politicians are either former Khmer Rouge themselves, like Hun Sen, or have co-operated with them, as Prince Ranariddh did in the 1980s.

The mutual hostility between the Prince and Hun Sen, both of whom have hundreds of bodyguards, has given rise to fears of a new civil war in the run-up to elections next year.



Symbol of the colonial era packed away

Old hand is new envoy to Beijing

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE appointment of a new Ambassador to Beijing was announced by the Foreign Office yesterday, two weeks before Hong Kong is to be handed over to China.

Tony Galsworthy, who is a former senior representative of the Joint Liaison Group in Hong Kong, will take over as ambassador in December. He replaces Sir Len Appleyard, who is retiring.

Mr Galsworthy, 52, will succeed as ambassador at a sensitive period in relations with China. Hong Kong will have been in Chinese hands for five months when he moves into the embassy in Beijing, and Britain and the international community will be watching to see how China's policy of "one country, two systems" is working.

Only this week, the Foreign Office condemned the laws approved by the Beijing-appointed Provisional Legislative Council to curb civil liberties in Hong Kong.

After July 1, Britain's main diplomatic representatives in China will consist of the Ambassador in Beijing, a Consul-General in Hong Kong, a new post yet to be filled and, until the turn of the century, the senior representative of the Joint Liaison Group. This group is to stay in existence until 2000 to monitor the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Hong Kong.

Theoretically, the Consul-General will come under the aegis of the Ambassador in Beijing. But since Hong Kong is to remain a separate political entity within China, he or she will retain a degree of independence to reflect the fact that Hong Kong will enjoy a large degree of autonomy. At present Britain has a Trade Commissioner in Hong Kong, whose role and status will be superseded by the appointment of the Consul-General.

Mr Galsworthy is well known to Beijing. He was senior representative of the Joint Liaison Group from 1989 to 1993, after the massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in 1989.



The Queen's portrait is removed at the Prince of Wales barracks in Hong Kong



Refugee move

Hong Kong has shut a major refugee detention centre, the Whitehead, before China takes over. However, despite Beijing's demand that all Vietnamese boat people leave the territory before July 1, more than 3,000 remain. (Reuters)

Knight 'errant'

Donald Tsang, Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, took a gamble by accepting a knighthood from the Queen in the last days of British colonial rule, political analysts said. Some believe that his acceptance of the honour could antagonise China. (Reuters)

Taiwan invited

Taiwan has been invited to celebrate the handover of the colony in two weeks' time, setting the stage for possible Taiwan-China reunification talks. Diplomats predicted officials from Beijing and Taipei would confer on the sidelines. (Reuters)

Boycott rejected

Etienné Reuter, the European Union's Hong Kong representative, expects most European governments to ignore an Anglo-American boycott and attend the inauguration of the unelected Provisional Legislature on July 1. (Reuters)

Plea to Blair on Aborigines

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

CHURCH and human rights groups have launched a twin-pronged attack on the Australian Prime Minister's policy on Aborigines by booking a full-page advertisement to appear in *The Times*, and sending a letter to the newspaper's Editor.

John Howard, who arrives in London tomorrow for talks with Tony Blair, will face criticism about his failure to give a formal apology to the so-called stolen children and his attitude to Aboriginal land rights.

The full-page advertisement, which has been finan-

ced by a group calling itself Australians for Native Title, will call for British support in the struggle to gain justice for Aborigines.

The open letter also asks Mr Blair to raise the native title issue when he meets Mr Howard and demand a national apology to the thousands of Aboriginal children who were forcibly taken from their families earlier this century.

Mr Howard labelled the proposed advertisement a "stunt", shortly before leaving for London last night. He said the cost would have been

better spent on relief for indigenous and disadvantaged Australians. He insisted in a radio interview that he could not "imagine an American President or a British Prime Minister presuming to give me advice on Australian affairs".

The authors of the letter to *The Times* argue that native title is a human rights issue and therefore falls within Mr Blair's election pledge to focus on human rights in foreign policy.

Letters, page 23

Beijing arrests six over banned thriller

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKEY IN HONG KONG

SIX people linked to a novel about Beijing's greatest corruption scandal of the decade, which brushed close to the family of Deng Xiaoping, the late senior leader, have been detained in an act recalling the jailing and death of a playwright in Mao's day who criticised the Chairman.

According to reports, those arrested are connected with the novel *Wrath of Heaven*, a thinly disguised account of an anti-corruption official's uphill battle to solve the murder or suicide of Beijing's Deputy Mayor. This is a direct reference to the alleged suicide in 1995 of Wang Baosen, Beijing's Deputy Mayor, a close associate of Chen Xitong, one of seven

members of the Politburo Standing Committee, China's ruling body. Mr Chen, portrayed in official biographies as cultured and honest, was a Deng protégé and Beijing's Mayor during the Tiananmen killings. Soon after Wang's death, Mr Chen was arrested and Beijing hummed with rumours that he and Wang had shared a mistress who had been present when Wang shot himself or was murdered in the hills near the capital. The woman disappeared.

A Beijing newspaper alleged Mr Chen "had an unshirkable responsibility for the Wang Baosen case". This involved the greatest embezzlement case since the party came to power, estimated at £200 million, which toppled Zhou Guanwu, director of Beijing's largest steel complex and an old army comrade of Deng, the

sentencing to death of Zhou's son, Zhou Beifang, a friend of one of Deng's sons, and the detention of 60 high officials. Mr Chen remains under house arrest while the party dithers about how to handle his case because of his links to the Dengs.

Much of this is touched on in *Wrath of Heaven*, which has been banned for several months. The original plates were seized but the novel has had a wide pirated sale. The whereabouts of the author, Chen Fang, are unknown.

In 1965, the opening shot in the Cultural Revolution was the criticism of *Hai Rui Defies the Emperor*, a play set in the 17th century which alluded to the purge of one of Mao's comrades. Its author, Wu Han, a Deputy Mayor of Beijing, was arrested in 1966 and died in jail three years later.

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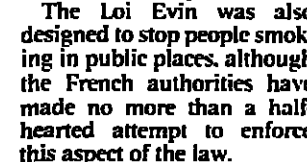


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Nechayeva: shot in the head at her dacha

30TH ANNIVERSARY **SALE** OFFERS?
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The young doctor with an old woman's disease

At 19, Anna Peckham discovered that years of anorexia had left her with osteoporosis. Heidi Kingstone reports

Sheer determination often sets anorexics apart. At the onset of their illness, it is what drives them to resist the constant craving for food; but it is also what gives them the strength to recover — the willpower needed to defeat the overwhelming desire not to eat. Anorexics are often bright and tenacious characters — high achievers, perfectionists — and Anna Peckham fits that description perfectly. Now 26, she has recently qualified as a doctor. But at 19, as a result of her long struggle with anorexia, she had gone through the menopause, developed osteoporosis and lost two inches in height.

At 15, Anna stood 5ft 11½ in tall and weighed 10st 7lb. Preparing for the summer holidays, she decided to shed some weight. It was the beginning of a terrifying descent. At 18, her weight had dropped to less than 6st, and at her lowest point, she weighed just over 5st. By the time she was 19, Anna no longer towered over her three younger sisters, and her once perfectly proportioned body was squat from neck to waist.

And the cost was not just physical. For two years, while her contemporaries were studying for their GCSEs, Anna was ricocheting between High Wycombe high school and a hospital psychiatric ward.

At school, acquaintances would comment on her thinness, and close friends talked to Anna of their concern. But as she walked down the school corridors, her trademark scarf wrapped around her neck, the hardworking teenager thought she looked pretty good. Anna liked herself long and lean. It was a portrait by a classmate that finally brought home what was happening to her: a stick person drawing, scarf included, with the word "Anna-rexia" scrawled underneath. "I thought 'If that's what they think of me, then perhaps I am fooling myself.'"

The dieting that had started quite innocently was out of control. About five months after Anna first began her diet, her mother insisted that she see a doctor, after discovering that her

daughter's periods had ceased. By then Anna weighed 9st 7lb, but she assured her mother that she was absolutely fine, blaming the stress of exams and schoolwork. Her mother insisted, however, and at their GP's recommendation, Anna began to see a psychiatrist. At home, the arguments over food intensified. Anna's eating patterns were scrutinised. Hungry and cold, surviving on a diet of apples and black coffee, she continued to lose weight. Aged 12, Anna had decided that she would become a doctor. But at 18, the future looked bleak. Weak and skeletal, she was banned from school.

By then, she had spent seven months in an adolescent psychiatric ward. There, she had been put on a high-calorie diet, combined with bed rest, to encourage rapid weight gain. The rewards for eating would be freedom and a return to school. In those seven months she gained 3st. But confined to the ward, she also learnt the tricks of a serious anorexic — laxatives, vomiting.

"After that first hospital stay I thought I would be cured. But as soon as I left, the weight started to fall off me. In hospital I had to make progress, because what I ate was controlled by the staff. Outside, the control was mine. I had spent months being practically force-fed, and I had no idea how much I should be eating."

As Anna was to discover, recovery from anorexia is a slow, painful process. "I found it hard, because I thought 'Everyone is watching me, watching how much I'm eating, if I'm putting on weight or not'."

"I got so weak that I didn't have the strength to carry my textbooks. Getting up from the chair took a lot of thought and effort. I knew I was very ill at this stage, but I also knew I was too ill to do anything about it. I realised that this was as low as I could go."

"Then someone reported that they had seen me stumble at the top of the stairs and nearly faint. I realised that it wasn't true, although I knew that it was. The headmistress banned me and I was told that I couldn't return until I

weighed 7st 7lb. I wondered if I would ever take my A levels."

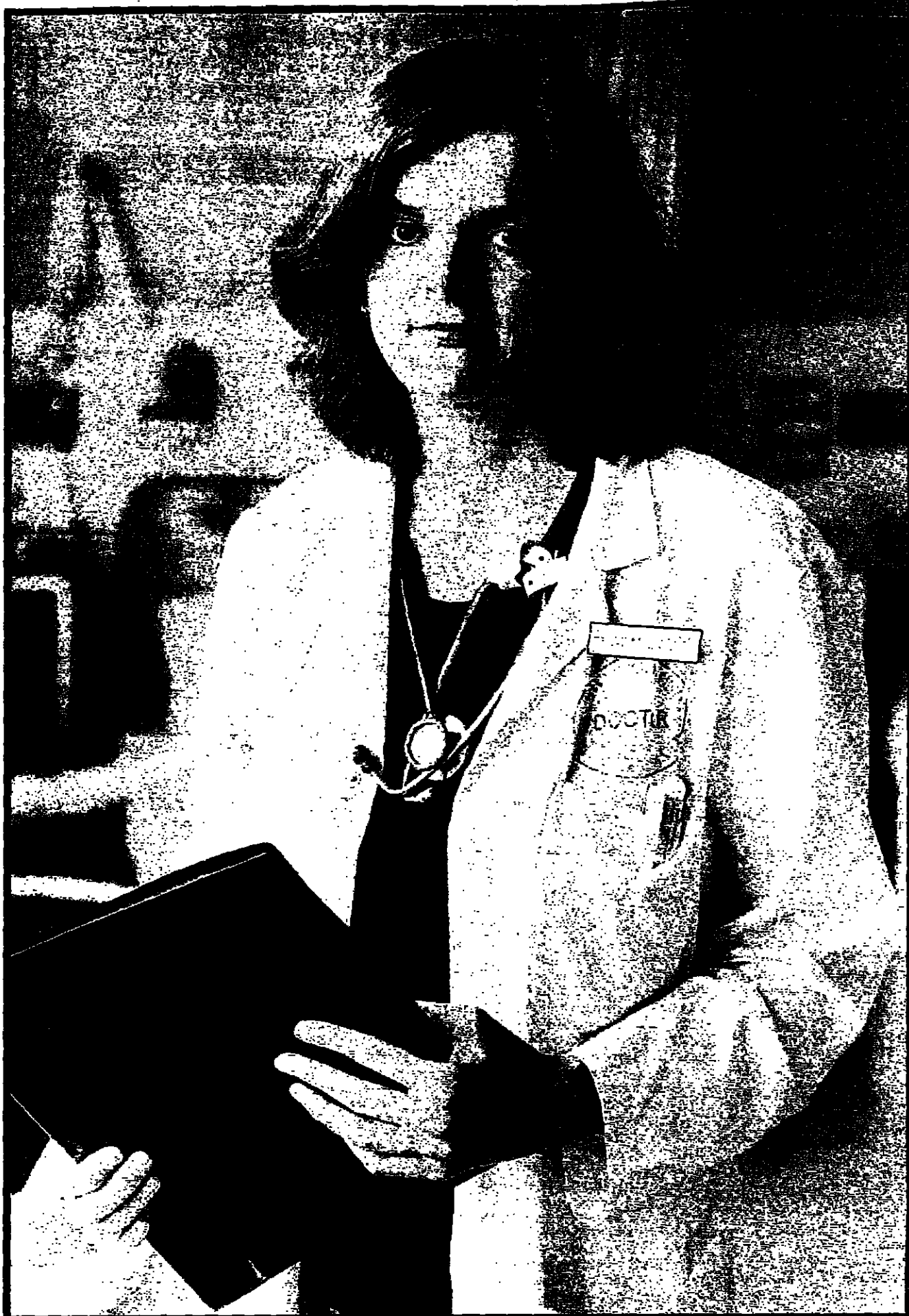
At 19, still battling to regain control of her weight, but as determined as ever to realise her ambition to become a doctor, Anna was combining her A-level studies with work in an old people's home. Back pain was a hazard of the job — the result of lifting patients. Her occasional twinges concerned Anna, but it was one spasm that revealed the extent of the damage she had inflicted on herself. "One morning I felt this excruciating pain; pain that I have never felt before or since. It shot right down my back and I fell to the floor. I screamed to my dad that I needed help, then crawled along the landing back to bed. It was terrifying because I couldn't stand up. We called the GP because we thought it was probably just a slipped disc."

The doctor confirmed the diagnosis, and prescribed bed rest, but when she started walking again, Anna's mother, a former nurse, noticed that her statuesque eldest daughter was no longer taller than her sisters. X-rays and a bone density scan confirmed that Anna was suffering from osteoporosis. A young woman, with a bright future, she now had an old woman's disease. "It was a horrendous time for me. I realised I had wasted part of my life, and that if I didn't want the rest of it to pass me by, I had to do something."

Paradoxically, this was the trigger she had needed to defeat her anorexia and gain the longed-for place at medical school in Liverpool. Exercise, milk, which she hates, and a high-dose oestrogen producing pill increased her bone density, and Anna now finds that the effect of osteoporosis on her daily life on the wards is minimal.

Now a healthy 10st 7lb, she has just returned from cycling around Ireland, and in August, she will start a six-month stint in the psychiatric unit of Liverpool's North Mersey Community NHS Trust. "One of the areas I might like to specialise in is psychiatry," she says, "because I think I could bring something special with me."

● The National Osteoporosis Society Helpline, 01761 472721
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"I knew I was very ill, but I also knew I was too ill to do anything about it. I realised that this was as low as I could go"

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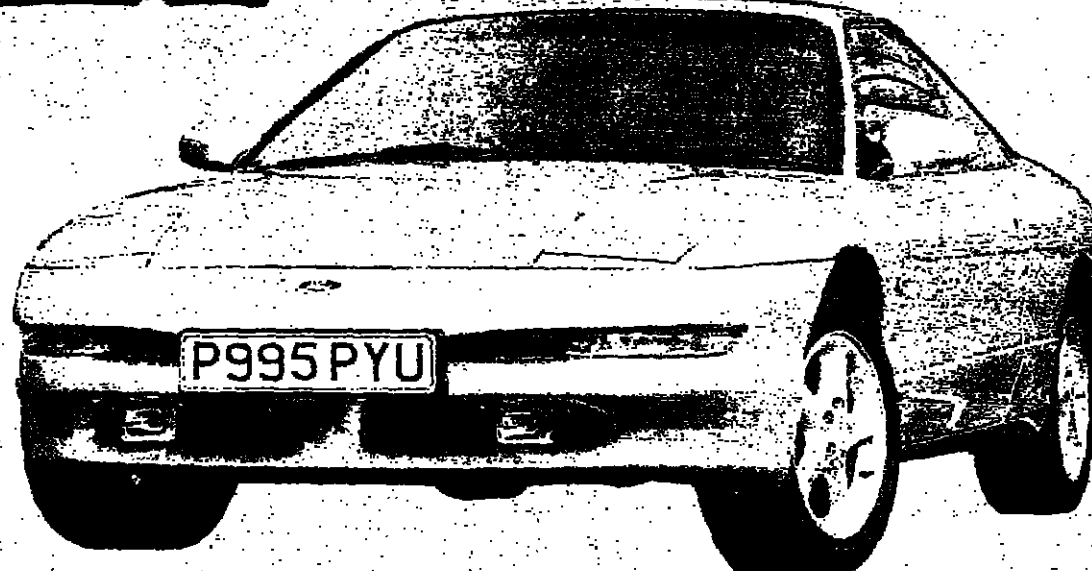
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FORD'S 21 YEARS



TOKEN 14

CHANGING TIMES

High risks for high rollers

A new, sophisticated and, many claim, more exciting form of gambling has emerged from the City dealing rooms. Jason Cowley investigates

The British have always loved a flutter and the glorious sporting week of Royal Ascot and the Lord's Test match is traditionally one in which vast sums of money are spent on bets. This year, though, not all of it will be passed over the counter in the smoke-filled atmosphere of the local bookmakers. For a new, more sophisticated form of gambling has emerged — especially among the affluent young, for whom spread betting offers a charge of excitement that conventional betting cannot match.

Perhaps the most remarkable recent manifestation of spread betting came on the night of the general election, when thousands of people

across the country picked up the phone and started gambling on the scale of the Government's humiliation. The leading spread-betting firms had experienced hectic nights before, notably during England's anguished Euro '96 semi-final against Germany, but nothing prepared them for what happened on election night. Throughout that night and into the early hours of the following morning, as Labour's triumph turned the election map of Britain from blue to red, the offices of IG Index and its main rival, City Index, recalled City dealing rooms at their most frenetic: phone lines were jammed, computers froze through information overload, and market makers frantically revised positions in response to each new Labour gain.

"What happened was phenomenal: we were literally taking thousands of bets," says Ian Jenkins of IG Index, the pioneering spread-betting firm established in 1976. "The office was as busy as any City trading room can get. It was like a mini Black Wednesday."

What happened on election night would have been unthinkable a decade ago. For spread betting, once one of the

best-kept secrets in the City, is the fastest-growing form of gambling in the country. Part of the attraction of spread betting is its flexibility: from the end of a telephone line you can bet on almost anything from the closing position of the FTSE-100 on a particular date to the finishing position of Persian Punch, the favourite for the Ascot Gold Cup on Thursday, or the number of corners in a football match. And unlike traditional bookmakers, who refuse to take bets once an event has started, a spread bet can be continually updated. There is an edge of danger, too: unlike fixed-odds betting, there is no limit to the extent of potential winnings — or losses.

Bets are placed by telephone and on account with one of the specialist companies — IG, City, Sporting Index — or with the national bookmakers that have opened specialist divisions in the past two years. The industry is regulated by the Securities and Investment Board and has similarities with futures trading, where prices are perpetually changing to reflect market fluctuations. Spread bets, unlike traditional investments, are exempt from income tax and capital gains tax.

Graham Sharpe of William Hill explains how the concept works: "It is simple enough: the market maker (or bookmaker) quotes you a position or 'spread' on the outcome of a future issue or event, such as the number of seats Labour will win, or how many goals Alan Shearer will score next season. So the position for Shearer might be offered as a spread of, say, 24 to 28 goals. The punter then backs his judgment against that of the market maker by deciding on which side of the position to bet and at what stake. The difference between the two ends of the position — 24-28 — is the spread."

Spread betting has long been popular in the City, where brokers once gambled



Vast amounts of money are traditionally spent on betting at Ascot but gamblers are expected to be even more active this year as the public's fascination with spread betting increases

privately on the price of soya beans or pork bellies. "Spread betting is nothing more complicated than speculation using futures contracts," says Ian Jenkins of IG Index. "We launched in the Seventies when we devised a way of buying and selling the price of gold without actually holding it. In the Eighties, as indices became more important, we introduced spread betting on the movements on the FTSE, the Nikkei and Dow Jones. The market really took off with the growth of sport spread betting in the early Nineties."

Michael Paterson, a former stockbroker-turned-restaurantier, profits to the tune of £25,000 a year from spread betting. He is attracted by the flexibility of the system and the fact that, unlike the traditional fixed-odds bet, he is not locked into a position. He can recast or "close down" a bet depending on circumstances and on whether he wishes to maximise profits or diminish losses. He says, "The smart player gets in and out of the market at the right time. So,

for example, if I am bullish on the FTSE-100 and buy the September position at, say, £4,600, and it rises to £4,700 in August, where I find the risk-reward ratio less attractive, I can sell at a profit before the maturity of the contract in September. Similarly, I can cut my losses or double up my position if markets move against me."

Spread-betting firms have been called "blue chip casinos," but Mr Paterson says there is risk in all aspects of life. "Life is a gamble — the job you do, the house you buy and the way you finance it; even the wife you choose. An honest person recognises this."

Yet spread betting can be a dangerous, consuming hobby because it demands imagination, talent and specialist knowledge to do well. James Willoughby, 25, a racing journalist and combative gambler, converted to spread betting three years ago. He was confident that, as a racing insider, he could outwit the market makers in the City. He liked, too, the edge of danger, never knowing how much he might win or lose.

"I knew the discipline had grown up in the City and centred on other sports, such as football and cricket, so I reasoned that they might not be so expert on racing," he says. "What also inspired me

to succeed was when I met some of the market makers — a bunch of more smug, self-satisfied egomaniacs you would have to go a long way to find. The thought of landing a blow on one of them really got me up."

Willoughby enjoyed early success. "I found them easy to beat on National Hunt racing to start with but, like many novices, I got overconfident and burnt my fingers badly at the [1995] Cheltenham Festival when Alderbrook won the Champion Hurdle. It cost me £3,000, as I'd sold him heavily, thinking that he had been hyped up. My bets are usually in the region of £50 to £100; my biggest ever was £400. So to lose £3,000 in one hit was a real kick in the teeth. I wouldn't actually put anybody off having a spread bet, just warn them to be aware of the pitfalls."

John Markham, 32, who is used to working the money markets at Credit Suisse is another disappointed spread bettor. Like many in the City,

he began dabbling privately among friends, gambling on major sporting events and on forward markets in currencies. He and his friends would set their own spreads and act as their own bookmakers, so profits were necessarily small, restricted by minimum and maximum stakes. In the end, tempted by the prospect of making what he calls "serious money" he opened a couple of accounts.

"I loved the thrill of spread betting, especially the fact that you can close or open a bet at any time, but I never really

made any money from it. The market makers are too canny. I also took a bad hit a couple of years ago when Brian Lara achieved his world record Test score of 375 runs. I had backed him to score under 100."

"I realise now that spread betting is the triumph of the trivial. I have found more sensible ways to invest my money."

Mr Markham is not alone in his doubts. Even bookmakers are concerned that the gullible are being drawn in by the glamour and buzz of spread betting without fully

understanding how the concept works. Gamblers Anonymous reports a disturbing rise in spread-betting victims, many of whom have a background in finance.

"The introduction of the National Lottery has turned the country into a nation of gamblers," says a spokesman for Gamblers Anonymous. "And the worrying growth in spread betting appears to reflect this."

There is surprising agreement at William Hill. "I prefer fixed-odds betting because you know exactly how much you

are going to lose," says Graham Sharpe. "That's not the case with spread betting, where you are taking a much bigger risk. When you bet on a horse and it falls, you only want to know how much you have lost. You don't want to find out you have to stump up even more money because it fell at the first."

He pauses, then continues with a warning: "My advice to any potential spread bettor is: don't do it unless you are already an experienced gambler. The downside is too great."

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WHICH?



Swinging left: Peter Snow

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John Markham, 32, who is used to working the money markets at Credit Suisse is another disappointed spread bettor. Like many in the City,

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■ DESIGN

People in glass houses: British architects plan huge botanical pleasure domes for the millennium



■ PROMS

From dolphin rides to fishermen's tales: children come up with a frigate-full of new sea shanties

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ PROMS

... to help their schools win 500 free tickets to the Junior Prom in the Albert Hall



■ RECORDING

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Have our top architects gone hothouse mad? Marcus Binney reports on some giant gardening projects

The glass men cometh, in bulk

There is no stopping Tim Smit on the Eden Project. "It's the horticultural answer to the Taj Mahal or the Sydney Opera House. It will knock your socks off and anyone within 200 miles will have to come and see it," he says.

The project is to build the largest hothouse in the world, 1,000 metres long, snaking around a disused Cornish clay pit near St Austell. The Millennium Commission has offered £37 million and with a further £25 million promised, Smit is close to the £74 million target.

He and his co-founder, Jonathan Ball, have won this massive backing on the strength of the "lost gardens of Heligan", a recreated historic garden, which is attracting 300,000 visitors a year. To be sure of a winning team, they took on all the consultants who worked on the Channel Tunnel terminal at Waterloo, beginning with Nicholas Grimshaw as architect and Anthony Hunt as engineer.

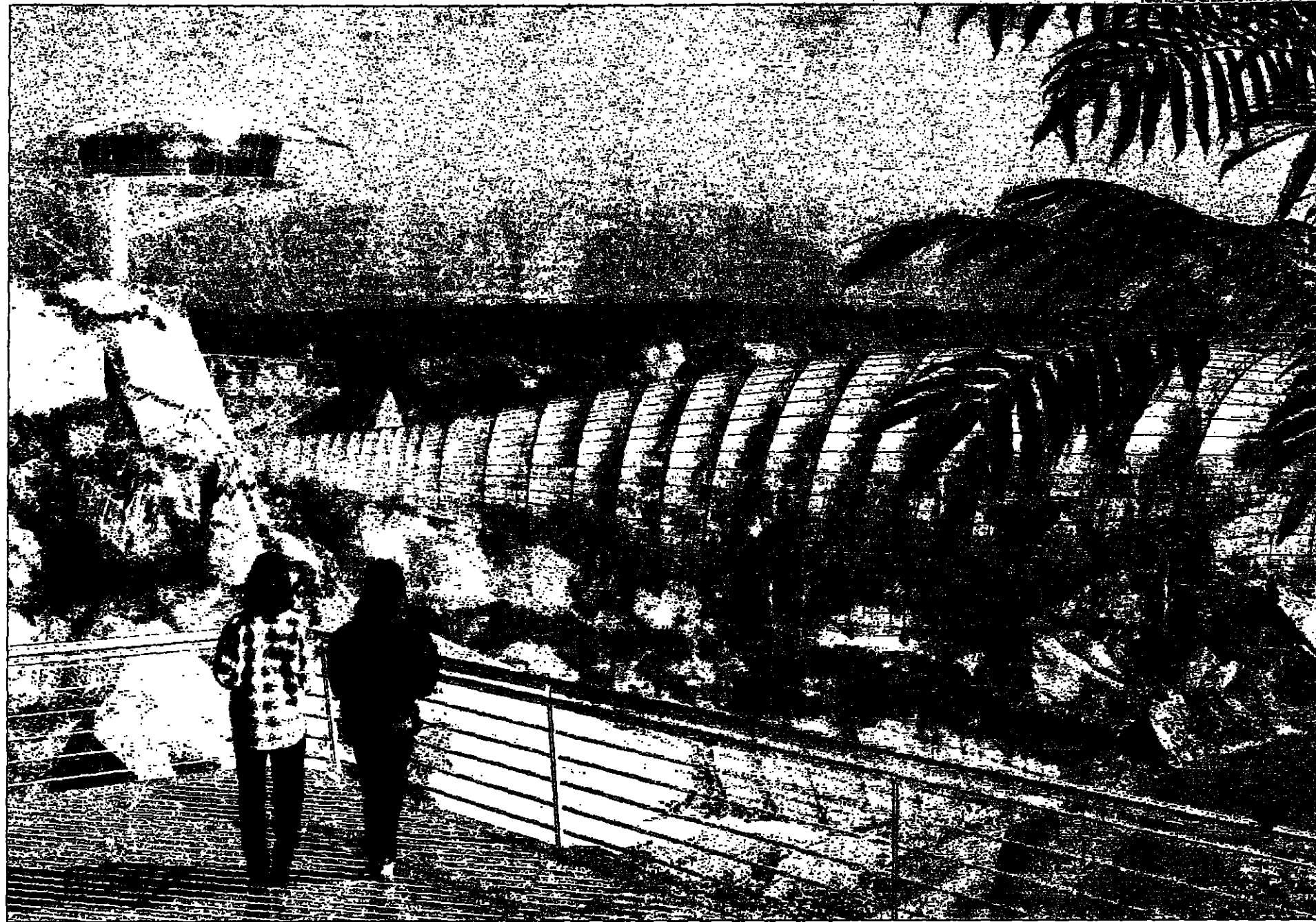
Waterloo's snaking glass roof has been adapted to the more complex contours of the clay pit. Grimshaw explains: "It's positively colonial, narrowing to a defile, then rising to 300ft to accommodate tropical trees."

For the roof, he is exploring a covering of lightweight inflated transparent cushions, which use the sun to operate tiny fans to keep them up. "Our aim is to create the total responsive skin of the 21st century, which will stay warm in winter and never overheat in summer," he says.

Phase one consists of two major "biomes", devoted to the humid tropics and Mediterranean-type climates around the world. These will be planted with more than 10,000 species, varieties and cultivars. Each will be split into three areas: wild Arcadia, primitive agriculture and cornucopia, showing how science transforms cultivation.

"We will be having what we call Day One plants for theatrical effect backed up by a large propagation programme," says Smit. They have purchased a large nursery off site, ensuring that disease problems are spotted in advance.

Disused clay pits suggest a barren moonscape, but Reading University has told Smit that by adding "25 per cent loam-type material" they can create a fertile soil. Surprising-



The world's largest hothouse? An artist's impression shows the Eden Project, which will glass over an entire Cornish clay pit, creating Mediterranean and tropical climates

ly, in drought-prone Cornwall water is not a problem. "We are 30ft below the water table, and 80 per cent of our water needs will be met by rainwater running off the roof."

Come the millennium the question is whether the proverbial apple will be awarded to Cornwall or to the new National Botanic Garden of Wales, where Sir Norman Foster is designing a rival futuristic glasshouse, looking like a biosphere to nurture life on Mars. It is intended to contain the greatest collection

of Mediterranean flowers and flowering shrubs the world has seen, and bring together flora from parallel climates in Chile, California and Africa.

Professor Charles Stirton, the director, says: "This will be the most beautifully planted glasshouse in the world, flowering in and out of season. Mediterranean climates represent 1.7 per cent of the Earth's surface but are host to 20 per cent of the plant species. A century ago, plant hunters would simply have been sent out into the wild to search for

seeds and specimens. We will work closely with national botanic institutions. We would also seek to grow rare species under licence and sell them to gardeners."

The new botanic garden will be in the grounds of a vanished Georgian mansion, Middleton Hall, near Carmarthen. Hunt, who is once again the engineer, explains: "The shape is a perfect toroid, that's a slice of the outside of a doughnut." The huge expanse of glass poses the risk of

scorched leaves, so there will be an elaborate system of automated shades. As well as collecting its own water, the garden will grow fuel for heating in coppices around the estate. Sewage will be recycled through reed beds and run through a willow plantation to leave water clear enough to return to nearby streams. The Millennium Commission is providing £22 million.

With all this happening, Kew could hardly be left behind. So the Royal Botanic Gardens is planning its own £75 million millennium seed bank at Wakehurst in Sussex, aiming to provide a safe future for 25,000 species of flowering plants, or 10 per cent of the world's flora, as well as all the flowering plants native to the UK. This is based on predictions that a quarter of the world's 250,000 species of flowering plant may become extinct over the next 50 years.

Simon Linington, the manager of Kew's existing small seed bank, explains: "There are major seed banks for staple food crops but none for wild plants. We will begin

with the world's dry lands, which are under pressure from overgrazing and overpopulation. We will provide help with problems like seed dormancy. Our existing seed stock list already goes to 100 countries."

Once collected, seeds are dried and kept at temperatures of down to -40C. That allows them to be stored for more than 200 years without losing their regeneration potential. Clearly this is one millennium project designed to last for centuries.

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Richard Morrison has the results of *The Times*/Junior Prom competition

Winners, winners, everywhere...

Appropriately enough we were flooded with salty entries. The *Times*'s "Wet Wet Wet" competition - for schools to win 500 free tickets, plus travel costs, to the Junior Prom at the Albert Hall on September 8 - required children under 15 years old to write the words of a modern sea-song. The response was fantastic. To the thousands of children who took part - thank you. I hope you had as much fun writing your waterlogged epics as we had reading them.

There were lots of rides on dolphins' backs (clearly No 1 fantasy among nine-year-olds this year), a fair number of our old friends the mermaids popping up, and some ferocious tales of lashing gales and mountainous seas. Ferries and fishermen featured strongly, of course. But so also did some

stunning descriptions of the underwater kingdom.

One budding Herman Melville bravely decided to tell the story of an entire whaling expedition in 20 lines. But we also loved the poem which suggested that we try tickling a whale's tummy. It sounds dangerous, but fun.

And of course there were plenty of ecological disaster-poems. We particularly admired the angry shanty that described all the sea creatures rising up and exacting a terrible revenge on us, the selfish human race. Its title? *Scapes of Justice*, naturally.

In the end, we selected 12 schools to share our 500 free tickets to the Junior Prom. They are listed below, and they will be contacted directly by the BBC Proms Office about arrangements for the great event on September 8.

Four young poets stand out in particular. Eight-year-old Harriet Swindall, from Sheen Mount Primary School in London, wrote a delightfully alliterative couple of verses called *Under the Sea and Over the Sea*. From St John's Primary School in Staffordshire, Benjamin Nicholls supplied not only the words but a splendidly catchy tune and piano accompaniment for his *Fisherman's Song* - a remarkably polished effort for a nine-year-old.

Leah Kirby, aged 10, from Fitzherbert School in Derbyshire, produced a very cautionary tale (for fish at least) about a know-all fish, a nice juicy worm and a fatal miscalculation. And finally there was 12-year-old Holly Morgenroth from St Margaret's School in Exeter. Her jolly song, *The Underwater Wardrobe*, sim-

ply made us laugh a lot. We reproduce it here. And we hope that, on September 8, one of these four fine new sea-songs will be given its first performance at the Proms!

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● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (10am): Fischer-Dieskau survey

HOLLY'S SEA-SONG

THE UNDERWATER WARDROBE by Holly Morgenroth

The octopus has many legs
She gets them tied in knots,
And must get through no end of weed
Knitting slimy socks.

She sits upon a cushion star
And sleeps in an oyster shell.
The jellyfish hat upon her head
Suits her very well.

She wears a frilly seaweed gown
And when she goes out for fun
She carries a mantle ray,
To shade her from the midday sun.

She rides upon a seahorse
And writes her letters in ink.
She eats her meals off a flatfish dish
With lobster juice to drink.

She doesn't go up to the surface
For fear of getting spots.
So she stays down deep
Amongst the craggy rocks!

A mirror she stole from a mermaid
She keeps in a golden chest.
It tells her she always looks just fine
And at her very best!

WINNING SCHOOLS: Bal-lisally Primary (Coleraine), Barn Street County Primary (Blowerford West), Blackboys (Uckfield), Fitzherbert (Fen-

ny Bentley, Derby), Green-bank (Cheddle Hulme), Hotwells Primary (Bristol), Kingsley (Leamington Spa), St John's Primary (Keele,

Staffs), St Margaret's (Exeter), Sheen Mount (East Sheen), Stoke by Nayland (Colchester), Wood Ley Pri-mary (Stowmarket).

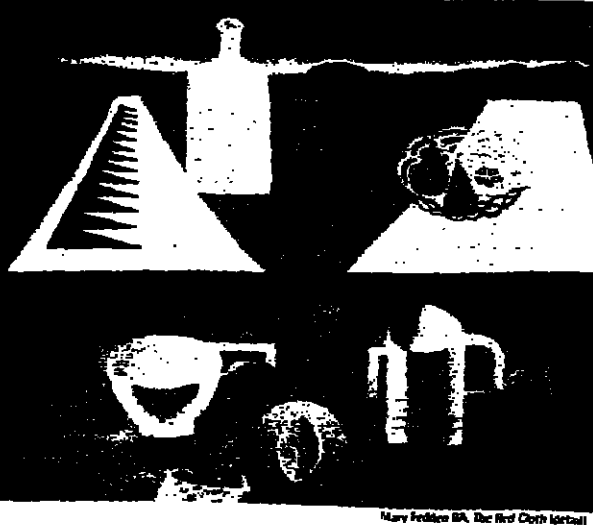
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VISUAL ART 1

British triumphs in Venice: Rachel Whiteread is feted for a typically bold installation...



VISUAL ART 2

...and there is acclaim, too, for Douglas Gordon, who revisits a gruesome medical experiment

THE TIMES ARTS



VISUAL ART 3

Young women artists go on show at *Some Kind of Heaven* in the South London Gallery



TOMORROW

How the Hayward Gallery will celebrate the art, music and writing of the Harlem Renaissance

Death still fashionable in Venice

VISUAL ART: The artists at this year's Venice Biennale span a wide age range, but a common theme unites young and old. Richard Cork reports

Future. Present. Past: the theme of the 47th Venice Biennale is broad enough to embrace virtually anything submitted by the contributing countries. So the artists chosen for the national pavilions in the Castello Gardens span an unusually wide age range. At one extreme we find Robert Colescott, a senior American painter who studied under Leger way back in 1949. And at the other, Rachel Whiteread, the young British sculptor who left art school only a decade ago and is one of three British artists to win a prize at this year's Biennale. With astonishing assurance, she has transformed the British Pavilion into the ideal showcase for her single-minded, powerful and continually developing talent.

The outcome is even more impressive than I had expected. In the first room, Whiteread's ability to make a presence out of absence, give emptiness solid form and invest ordinary objects with an unforced grandeur is given imposing form in a large, white plaster sculpture called *Ten Tables*. Scarred, cracked and mottled, it has a stillness which reminded me of Brancusi's *Table of Silence* in Romania. But Whiteread's secular Last Supper, cast from the spaces underneath the furniture, is an unmistakably individual achievement.

The great excitement of her other rooms lies in the gradual unfolding of Whiteread's more sensuous side. A rich, gleaming resin table and chair are juxtaposed with a cream mattress. A deep orange bath occupies a ceremonial chamber of its own, and the main gallery at the back is enlivened by a magisterial floor-piece. The Venetian sun falls straight on to its dark blocks of resin, revealing a surprising range of colours inside them. Although Whiteread's art is elegiac, and bound up with memorialising, her preoccupation with death is conveyed with great serenity and warmth. At the age of only 34, she can already be counted among the most formidable artists at work anywhere in the world. The Biennale jury was right to give her a Best Young Artist award.

Her pavilion is surrounded by disappointing neighbours. Fabrice Hybert's French Pavilion, decked out like a tent, is filled with irritating videos and arbitrary bric-a-brac. Its deliberate disorder contrasts with the emptiness of the German Pavilion, where Gerhard Merz's light sculpture is installed perched high on the wall. His fastidious coolness could hardly be further

THE WINNERS

Golden Lion
Agnes Martin
Emilio Vedova
Marina Abramovic
Gerhard Richter

Best Young Artist
Rachel Whiteread
Douglas Gordon
Pipilotti Rist

Illycafe Award (most promising young artist)
Sam Taylor-Wood

Best Pavilion
France

removed from the crowded images installed by Katharina Sieverding in the side rooms, where her enigmatic forms convey a sombre mood.

So it is a relief to find in the Canadian Pavilion an entertaining film where Rodney Graham, arrayed in 18th-century clothes, finds himself stranded like Robinson Crusoe on an idyllic desert island. Coconuts knock him unconscious and the efforts of a squawking parrot fail to revive him. But for all its gentle wit, the film seems a lightweight affair.

‘The Spanish Pavilion is dominated by a garotte’

This is a multimedia Biennale, and few pavilions are devoted to painters. Abstraction at its most severe reigns in the Swiss Pavilion, where Helmut Federle fills his main space with brooding, minimal canvases. He strives for a pared-down, almost glacial essence, whereas Robert Colescott's large, figurative canvases in the American Pavilion present an angry, hectic and often apocalyptic vision. He sees the US as an emergency room in an over-stretched hospital. Racism is his principal concern, and nobody can doubt the sincerity of his moral disquiet. But his paintings, seen en masse, become cluttered and repetitive.

They suffer from the weariness of stridency also to be found in the Russian Pavilion. It is devoid of the ability to surprise which animates Joan Brossa's work in the lively Spanish Pavilion. Insects swarm over one colossal white wall, but his most macabre room is dominated by an instrument of execution. Until Spain abolished the death penalty in 1974, this horrible *garrote vil* was regularly used. The neck-clamped victim was killed from behind by a spine-snapping device, and Brossa

compounds our disquiet by laying out an elaborate dinner table with silver candlesticks for the prisoner's final meal.

But at least Brossa seasons his gruesomeness with black humour. In the main pavilion, Marina Abramovic provides no such relief. Seated in a darkened room, she is surrounded by a heap of blood-smeared, stinking bones. For several hours each day Abramovic stays in this charnel house, moaning and washing a large bone propped like a baby on her lap. She calls this unnerving and repellent performance *Balkan Baroque*. Originally intended for the Yugoslav Pavilion, it was rejected by commissioners who found it too strong to stomach.

By no means everything in the main pavilion is so mortifying. Agnes Martin shows some surprisingly seductive stripe paintings, and Tony Cragg's three monumental sculptures are typically inventive. Roy Lichtenstein also stands out, with a roomful of bold and witty aluminium sculptures in hard, shiny colour. But even though Gerhard Richter and Annette Messager also make powerful contributions, long-established reputations are celebrated here. For younger artists, we must visit the nearby Arsenal.

The lofty, multi-columned interior starts predictably, with a glistening toy-like sculpture by Jeff Koons positioned appropriately near the gallery shop. Some exhibits are merely playful, like Bertrand Lavier's giant yellow Caterpillar truck festooned with Christmas-tree decorations. Others are guilty of grandiosity, like the portentous row of white crosses installed by Robert Longo. But some of the younger participants are far more rewarding. Juan Munoz arrests attention with his cluster of grey-painted, bald oriental men, smiling despite their leg braces and unaccountable lack of feet.

Two women artists prove outstanding too. Sam Taylor-Wood's three-screen video installation is set out in a smart restaurant, where the diners' pleasure provides an ironic foil for the distress of one young woman. Close-ups concentrate on her anguished face, and the restless hand-gestures of the man who seems to be causing her so much unhappiness. Taylor-Wood ensures that sounds of laughter, clattering cutlery and the generalised din of other people's chatter is heard more clearly than anything this couple say to each other. But the sense of crisis in their relationship is vividly conveyed.

So is the vitality and glee of the young woman in Pipilotti Rist's video work. While a contented humming fills the soundtrack, she walks down a street aiming a red-hot poker flower at the windows of parked cars. Her improvised weapon must contain a hidden weight, for it smashes the glass every time. She reacts with relish, and nothing can stop her triumphant, ecstatic progress. A passing policeman simply salutes her and walks on, while the flower-filled fields on a neighbouring screen seem to applaud her



Venice winner Rachel Whiteread, with *Untitled (Paperbacks)*: at 34 she is one of the world's most formidable artists

attack on the polluting vehicles.

If a "green" message underlies Rist's exhibit, she conveys it with irresistible flair and wit. Douglas Gordon, another British winner at this year's Biennale, also makes an impact. For 30 seconds his room is completely dark, and then a single light bulb suddenly illuminates a text on the wall. It describes how, in 1905, a French doctor tried to communicate with a condemned man's severed head immediately after a guillotine execution.

The face showed definite signs of response for half a minute, the amount of time Gordon allows us before the light is switched off again. We stand there, waiting to finish reading and nervously finding that our own imaginations visualise the doctor's alarming experiment in the gloom. This fascination with mortality, which also unites the otherwise very different work of Joan Brossa and Rachel Whiteread, is the most potent theme running through the entire Biennale.

In Ireland's contribution, superbly displayed in the Galleria Nuova Icona on the Giudecca, Alastair MacLennan has created a chilling, clinical installation. The papered walls, so reminiscent of white tiles in a mortuary, turn out to be hung with the names of people who have been killed in the recent Irish troubles. While unseen voices solemnly

read them all out, we find ourselves confronting a rough-hewn sculpture of wood and earth, along with an empty wheelchair waiting for its next maimed occupant.

Anselm Kiefer's exhibition ensures that the elegiac mood is sustained. Displayed with great theatrical flair at the Museo Correr, it begins with two of his largest recent paintings. While one evokes the crumbling structure of a stepped Mayan temple, where sacrificial rituals were once staged, the other fills the sky above an immense furrowed field with sunflower seeds.

While symbolising renewal, they also threaten to choke the picture with their swarming blackness; upstairs, the rest of Kiefer's powerful exhibition reveals how he has explored this ambiguity for more than 20 years. Burnt

landscapes from the 1970s testify to his vision of Germany as a country battered by its own traumatic history. But the strong outlines of a painter's palette are roughly brushed over some of these harrowing scenes. Kiefer's determination to make an eloquent art from the horror of his nation's tragedy cannot be doubted.

In the end, the sense of a profoundly troubled legacy from the past dominates this year's Biennale. The present and the future are both overshadowed, and the predominance of older artists means that we learn disappointingly little about the new, emergent generation.

But there are unexpected pleasures to be found in a retrospective event, not least at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, where a Stuart Davis exhibition is beautifully installed. Although his work cannot be found in British public collections, he is a major American painter. After grasping the significance of Cubism, he abandoned his early involvement with the urban seediness on the lower east side of Manhattan. But he never lost his infectious love of urban life. His finest paintings of the

1950s, where the influence of Leger and Matisse help to give energy to his vision of America, retain all their jazzy, zestful bounce. A precursor of Pop Art, Davis has been unfairly neglected. But his pictures pulsate with visual adrenalin.

and the Guggenheim show does full justice to his alert, joyful achievement.

● The Biennale continues at venues around Venice until November 6; the Stuart Davis exhibition at the Peggy Guggenheim continues until October 5

AROUND THE GALLERIES

IT SOUNDS like far too simple an idea. Large, simply framed colour photographs of black "souvenirs" in people's houses hang at eye level on the walls at Cafe Gallery. In an accompanying well-written narrative the artist, Dave Lewis, seems to be asking questions aloud. *Nice House* is a simple picture of a couple of collectable items of Negritude, caught from side on. In the accompanying running-thought piece he tells how, as a child, he came face to face at a friend's house with a wooden dumb waiter, a model of a serving black man. "Nothing was said but I remember thinking nice house... shame about the decor, darling." But is this what the work is questioning? Do these straightforward photographs hold out on their own without their "explanation"? Cafe Gallery, Southwark Park, London SE16 0RT-237 (1230), until June 22

□ THE suggestion made by this international group exhibition is that girls can now be girls: that women artists can be flippant, indulgent even, without having to be angry or "bad". *Some Kind of Heaven* brings a newer group of women artists together with better-known artists such as Sylvie Fleury, whose huge, furry, mock-yet rockets fight with a video programme to dominate the space at the South London Gallery.

The collective impression is of boys-comic-meeting-girls-comic, with the videos keeping up an atmosphere and din, girl after girl showing off, and dancing alone in front of the mirror. In a deliberately indulgent video, Tracy Emin's boyfriend shouts "Grow up for Christ's sake, you're 35 years old and you behave like a five-year-old".

A general tinkling sound comes from the video installation by Jane and Louise Wilson, in which a shiny black or bubble repeatedly rises out of a pond to come up behind a standing figure. Such space-age nostalgia is probably part of a look back to a 1950s of optimism, long phone chats, high heels and bright lipstick. The series of drawings by Elizabeth Peyton combines the relentless adolescent doodle with the fashion sketch to convey an infatuation with a lovely thin boy, while Ute Behrend simply and effectively couples the image of an object or thing with a picture of a girl.

South London Gallery, 65 Peckham Road, London SE5 0PT-703 0123, until July 13

SACHA CRADDOCK

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MUSIC 1

Lord Menuhin's great Live Music Now! project notches up 20 years of missionary work



MUSIC 2

Reinhard Goebel's fine Musica Antiqua Köln explores the tortured music of Jan Zelenka

THE TIMES ARTS



MUSIC 3

... while at the Aldeburgh Festival an early Britten work receives its first performance



MUSIC 4

... and at the Wigmore Hall Dawn Upshaw delves into the modern American song repertoire

Joanna Pitman on 20 years of Live Music Now! and its mission to introduce new stars to new audiences. Plus concerts

Millions of happy faces – and one score

Just try this little challenge for size. You have been asked to fill the Barbican Hall (seating capacity 2,000) for a midweek concert at 11am. Your performers are a mixture of enthusiastic amateur musicians and young professionals recently out of college. And your audience will include 600 children with mental and physical health problems, hundreds of old people bussed in from homes all over the country, and the Prince of Wales. And, by the way, the Barbican has only two loos for the disabled.

But the nightmare should go like a dream on Thursday morning, with the usual combination of delight, charm and excitement that Live Music Now! brings to every one of the 2,000 concerts it organises every year.

The concert marks the 20th anniversary of Live Music Now!, the scheme begun by Lord Menuhin to bring live music to audiences that do not normally have access to it, and at the same time provide young professional musicians with their first opportunities to perform.

Musicians performed by young enthusiasts often has a profound and lasting effect on Live Music Now!'s audiences of children with learning difficulties, adults in hostels or hospitals, wards, the elderly and prison inmates. Barriers are broken down, spirits are lifted and, for the performers, the pleasures and rewards of the direct response are tremendous.

Rebecca Woolcock has been on the scheme for two years, since she graduated from music college in Manchester. "I do about 12-15 concerts a year for Live Music Now! in various homes for the elderly

and schools for children with learning difficulties. It's so much more rewarding than playing for more staid concert audiences.

"The children are the best, because they can't hide their reactions. I've found it a wonderful experience to communicate so directly with these very appreciative audiences."

Tomorrow's concert, to be attended by friends and supporters of the scheme, will offer music performed by a

‘It's so much more rewarding than playing for staid concert audiences’

selection from the 150 specially trained musicians currently on the Live Music Now! programme, as well as an appearance by the soprano Sally Burgess, who took part in the scheme early in her career. Two pieces have been specially written for the occasion by the harpist Tudur Eames, to be sung by 30 members of the Ty Celyn Youth Group for the disabled. The Ty Celyn group is run by Maggie Harris, who every Sunday afternoon entertains and inspires 97 handicapped people, aged between seven and 30, who have between them a vast range of special needs. "They've just loved the music," she says. "The Live Music Now! scheme has been

brilliant. The kids get hold of the instruments and they have a go, and you should see the looks on their faces when they're making their own music. It's just wonderful."

The group performing tomorrow includes Patrick, who has cerebral palsy, and Emma, who is profoundly physically handicapped and is blind. "Emma just gets so excited," Harris says. "She'll be playing the maracas. She loves it and often she just won't let them go. She's all there mentally, but she's profoundly disabled. But I wouldn't be surprised if during the concert she jumped out of her wheelchair with the excitement."

"Most of the kids can't read, especially when they're singing, but they've learnt two songs and a rap by heart. They'll be talking about it for months afterwards."

Harris enjoys challenges (she took a group of the children climbing in the Dolomites last year and plans a trip for the wheelchair-bound to see the dolphins and whales in Iceland this year), so the sum start from Wales, the shortage of loos for the disabled and the lack of any ramp or lift access on to the stage at the Barbican are far from insurmountable.

"It is gratifying to see that joy can be awakened even for the most withdrawn or depressed among us," Lord Menuhin says. "The inspiration for the project came from my travels in Germany immediately after the war, when I played for audiences in newly liberated camps. In many cases, the music was their first contact with civilisation. I was seeing these people's strengths



Barbican-bound: a member of Karelia Brass, from the Commonsides School, Essex

and weaknesses and for the first time I saw what music could do for them. It was an experience which changed and inspired me."

Over the past 20 years his organisation has changed and inspired thousands more.

'New' Britten proves a winner

Britten/Pears Orch
Snake Maltings

This year's Aldeburgh Festival programme is as forward-looking as any of late, very welcome in this 50th anniversary season that could have inspired an outbreak of musical navel-gazing. Even the Britten repertoire is being widened, and though the unearthing of early works has become something of an Aldeburgh ritual, the first of Sunday's two concerts promises to be a masterpiece.

The highlight of the Britten-Pears Orchestra's programme at Snape was the first performance of Britten's Double Concerto in B minor for violin and viola. Written in 1932, while Britten was a student, the work was previously unknown even to biographers. Though an full score was apparently never made, detailed sketches survived which enabled Colin Matthews to assemble a work he claims to be "virtually 100 per cent" Britten.

It sounds like it: full of vitality, it points the way to the composer's mature style. This performance, with the violinist Katherine Hunka and viola player Philip Dukes conducted by Kent Nagano in his Aldeburgh debut, disclosed a 25-minute piece that deserves to be heard not just in Britten-friendly circumstances.

Little fanfares are gathered up in an opening full of nervous energy. But lyricism is never far below the surface, in spite of the virtuosic demands on the soloists, who are equal, parallel partners throughout the score. The second movement is a lush Romance, a symphonic fantasia that builds up fierce momentum. Material from the first movement makes a haunting return at the end, with muted horns sounding as the piece unfolds.

Even though Britten apparently rejected it, the Double

Concerto clearly marks an important stage in his creative development. It has the originality lacking in the *Two Portraits* for string orchestra, also played here, which date from just two years before. They are confidently crafted, remarkable for a 16-year-old, but unmemorable. The first points a swaggering picture of a schoolfriend; the second, more concise, is a self-portrait dominated by a viola solo full of mystical inflections.

The Double Concerto also stood up well in a programme that included the most sublime example of the genre: Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante*, played by the same hard-working soloists. Hunka producing sweet but big-bodied sound and Dukes smooth, liquid tone. Shostakovich's *Chamber Symphony*, an arrangement of his desolate *Eighth Quartet*, inspired an excellent performance from Nagano and the Britten-Pears players, but Haydn's *Symphony No 9* sounded wooden and under-rehearsed.

There was one disappointment, too, in the Nash Ensemble's evening concert at Jubilee Hall: a dull, not quite "lived-in" interpretation of Brahms's *Horn Trio*. But compensation came in Oliver Knussen's subtle *Songs Without Words*, and four movements that might also be called miniature tone poems, and in Colin Matthews's *23 Frames*, a restless, witty score. *Pierrot Lunaire* brought the day to a beautiful end, with Lucy Shelton as the singer-speaker and Martyn Brabbins a fluid conductor who evoked the fantastic moonlit world of Schoenberg's seminal work.

JOHN ALLISON

Flight into Baroque country

OVER MORE than a decade the admirable Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music has opened a window on the tantalising, little-trod byways of 17th and 18th-century music. All credit to that airline for sticking loyally to St James, Piccadilly – and also to some of its rival carriers for sponsoring individual concerts within the festival.

Friday's exploration of Jan Dismas Zelenka's *Lamentations*, for instance, was backed by British Midland,

Musica Antiqua
Köln/Goebel
St James, WI

which must rank as a corporate decision at least as bold as painting bad modern art onto your tail-fins. Zelenka, a Bohemian who became court composer at Dresden while Bach and Handel were flourishing in Leipzig and London, was a mad, gloomy homosex-

ual whose music is also mostly mad and gloomy. But it also reminds us that not everything in the late Baroque was calculated, cogent and cerebral.

Certainly these *Lamentations* are startling. Abrupt speed and metre changes, archaic and anarchic dissonances, and passages where the solo voice is recklessly plunged below all the accompanying instruments; these are hallmarks of the Zelenka style. So is the choppy text-setting: mundane recitative one moment, expressive melody the next. Zelenka's champions find this stop-go stuff useful and refreshing; his detractors point out that, between the jolts, the harmonic sequences and counterpoints are pretty laboured.

On Friday's showing, five *Lamentations* in a row is a

wearying experience. However, that may have been because the solo singers (the countertenor Steve Dugardin, tenor Christoph Genz and bass-baritone Raimund Nolte) were, at least to begin with, self-effacing to the point of sounding robotic.

The passion all came from the fine players of Reinhard Goebel's Musica Antiqua Köln (two oboes, five strings and harpsichord). Though the first beat of every bar seemed unduly stressed, the contrapuntal interplay was beautifully sinuous and telling. Zelenka emerged as an interestingly dysfunctional personality who didn't quite have enough musical resourcefulness to express the mountain of distress in his soul.

RICHARD MORRISON

Voice of America

Upshaw/Kalish
Wigmore Hall

RECITAL convention was stood on its head when Dawn Upshaw began her long-anticipated London programme with a dozen songs by her American contemporaries all born within five years of herself. Having been precipitated into a certain notoriety by her contribution to the recording of Gorecki's lugubrious Third Symphony in both the "pop" and classical charts, her commitment to the music of our own time is beyond question.

Her choice of American songs, however, did not suggest there was much to catch the listener's imagination. From the simple lyricism of two Emily Dickinson settings by Jake Heggie and Anna Weesner respectively, to the pedestrian parlour of "babies gumming French fries" in Kenneth Frazelle's *Sunday at McDonald's*, most looked askance at poetic conceits.

Exceptions might be made for Juliana Hall's beguiling *Sonnet*, and for John Musto's poignant setting of social concern in *Litany* (verse by L.

Hughes), to both of which Gil Kalish at the piano brought sensitive insight as he did throughout, while the soprano's directness of utterance invited an attentive ear even if her well-placed tone admitted little variation in colour.

She was at her most eloquent in the searching *Hermit Songs* by Samuel Barber, which transport the anonymous poems of medieval monks into a musical dimension of benign and elevating eloquence. *The Desire For Hermitage* is not surpassed in beauty by anything European.

The soprano left her native heritage only for five French songs by Messiaen, which she endowed with passion and ripe tone. She reverted to the American repertoire for her first encores, beginning with a diverting ditty by the undersung Charles Ives.

NOEL GOODWIN

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Fair blows the wind for France

Blair needs lessons from Jospin, not Kohl, says Anatole Kaletsky

Whatever is agreed in Amsterdam to paper over the cracks opening up between France and Germany, the pillars of "the European construction", one striking fact is already clear. The position taken by the Labour Government on key economic issues facing Europe is closer to that of the German Christian Democrat-led coalition than to the newly-elected Socialists in France.

For most sensible people in Britain this is a great relief. Sensible people believe that the Germans know more than the French about running an efficient modern economy. If in doubt (which sensible people usually are about economics), they would far rather have Mr Blair follow Helmut Kohl and the Bundesbank than an elderly French professor who looks like an old Labour retread and sometimes even sounds like Michael Foot. And sensible people are naturally delighted that Britain's new "left of centre" Government seems to have more in common with Europe's right-wing parties than with those on the Left.

But it sometimes happens, particularly in economics, that sensible people turn out to be wrong. I suspect that the disagreement over economic philosophy between Tony Blair and Lionel Jospin could be such a case — or at least could appear to be resolved during the next few years in the Frenchman's favour.

Jospin's views may soon look like a more successful formula than new Labour economics. In two specific respects. First, French unemployment will probably start falling in the next year, perhaps quite sharply, while Britain's may well start rising. Second, France's average living standards, output and productivity, all of which are already above British levels, will probably accelerate, leaving Britain even further behind.

The main reason for believing that Mr Jospin will do better economically than Mr Blair, at least in both Prime Ministers' first few years of office, is simply that they start from very different positions. Mr Blair inherited a healthy economy, with unemployment low and falling, inflation subdued, living standards going up and with national confidence reviving. Almost anything that changes will seem to make matters worse.

Mr Jospin, by contrast, has taken over a badly mismanaged economy, which may now be at its lowest ebb: unemployment is at a postwar record of 12 per cent; consumer and business confidence have been shattered by five years of recession and the French national psyche is in despair about the monetary kowtowing to Germany.

From this nadir, even a modest cyclical recovery (which has, in fact, already started) will give cause for celebration. As for relations with Germany, Mr Jospin seems bound to win whatever happens. If EMU goes ahead, France will have succeeded in its long-term goal of abolishing

the Bundesbank and getting its hands on the monetary reins. If EMU is delayed or abandoned, Mr Jospin will claim that the delay was imposed at French insistence and will give France more freedom. With luck, he will be able to point to falling unemployment and a cyclical improvement in incomes and output to prove that he is right.

It may turn out, then, that Mr Jospin was lucky to take over a sick and mismanaged economy, while Mr Blair was unfortunate to come to power after four years of competent economic policy and steady growth. This statement is not as trivial as it sounds. If France does do better than Britain in the next few years, albeit for "purely cyclical reasons", this will reopen in starker form the conflict between the new French emphasis on employment and the Anglo-German insistence on stability, which the politicians are trying to smooth over at Amsterdam. For at the root of this conflict lies the German denial that unemployment has anything to do with cyclical fluctuations in the economy.

To deny something so obviously true may seem bizarre — but not, apparently, too bizarre for

new Labour, which seems increasingly drawn to the German point of view.

The Anglo-German position is, broadly, that the only cure for European unemployment is the adoption of British-style "structural" measures to make labour markets more flexible, by reducing hiring and firing restrictions, tightening welfare regulations, improving labour training and generally deregulating the economy. The Germans may be unwilling to adopt many of these measures in practice, but in theory they propound them with passion.

What the Germans believe even more passionately — again in agreement with new Labour — is that interest rates, exchange rates and fiscal policies do not directly cause unemployment. These macro-economic or cyclical policies can do nothing to reduce unemployment: they should be devoted entirely to keeping inflation under control.

This is why the Germans are so determined that the stability pact, which is supposed to govern macro-economic policy in a post-EMU Europe, should not contain any reference to employment. The French are equally determined to see employment and stability tied together.

The best cure would be a combination of expansionary macro policies and competitive labour market reforms. This is exactly what the Americans have been doing since the mid-1980s. It was also the course which the Tories embarked on after 1992. But with John Major now watching cricket, and Kenneth Clarke unlikely even to become Leader of the Opposition, there seems to be nobody left in Europe to put forward such a straightforwardly commonsense point of view.

DAN BLAIR PILOT FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE



A period of silence, Sir

The Prince and Princess of Wales, a wise man once assured me, could have turned around the entire British educational system. All they needed to do (and he urged it on them ten years back) was to send Princes William and Harry to a state primary school.

Security could have been as feasible as it was at their dinky private pre-prep; the Princess could have joined the school-gate mothers, made cakes for PTA fundraising events, worried about Prince Harry in the early seven-year-old Standard Assessment Tests, and carried home the usual assortment of bloody things made out of detergent bottles. "It would have turned everything round," said my source sadly. "A rush of confidence in the potential of state education, teachers' morale boosted, middle-class parents flocking to emulate them. Too much to hope, I suppose."

This was not a left-wing educationist speaking, but a silver-haired former public school headmaster. He may have been right: these were the palmy days when Diana was the nation's favourite mum and the Prince was gamely breaking new ground with the Prince's Trust and organic farming. The Thatcher reforms would still have happened, but perhaps the roughness and insulting and strident bossiness of successive education secretaries would have been mitigated by this informal royal warrant for the national system. Even if the gesture had lasted only three or four years before the inevitable boarding schools, it could have defused much of the bitterness and mistrust which has marred the education debate.

It didn't happen. The Windsors continued to identify with chic little nurseries, rural boarding prep schools and the elite excellence of public schools. They kept their boys cocooned in a polite world of children who had always been put to bed on time, fed nourishing food and taught table manners: a world of contented, well-paid, cheerful teachers, small classes, wide green spaces and fabulous facilities. They had the right to make that choice: what parent can blame them? It's a lovely little world if you can afford it. Affluent Labour politicians like the Blairs, prevented by ideology from paying fees and therefore doomed to the exhausting and devious paths of trying to make "parental choice" work, may have

The public won't place its trust in a Prince so ignorant of state education

looked with an envious eye at the easy, pleasant consumer options enjoyed by the apolitical Windsors.

But there is a price to pay for being aloof from common experience, and wise royals know it. The price is silence, or at least a measure of discretion, when it comes to subjects in which you not only lack experience, but have shown no desire whatsoever to gain any. When the Prince of Wales joined in the modish attacks on our "failed system", and the "fashionable approach" which "abandoned a disciplined structure in schools", he was being plain

fatuous. All the worse because it degraded an otherwise timely explanation of the achievements of the Prince's Trust in getting older teenagers into work. In that area he really does have something to contribute, and there is no harm in his being seen to "advise" Mr Blair about welfare-to-work. Even so, it is to be hoped that after this figurehead exercise there will be a chance for Tom Sheehy, who actually runs the Prince's Trust, to fill in Mr Blair on the nuts and bolts.

But when it comes to accusing schools of failing, waffling about discipline (when did he last go and look?) and praising the "timeless approaches to education" of "the Far East", the Prince should put a sock in it. In the week when Philip Lawrence and the Dunblane teachers were honoured for their dedicated bravery it would better become the heir to the throne to admit that plenty of schools, even inner-city schools, do not fail children. He could have paused to reflect that failed youth is often the fault of grim poverty, lawless streets and family breakdown, and that schools fighting to counterbalance these things are often hampered by understaffing, crumbling buildings and the local authority's theft of their playing fields. He might have asked why remedial reading was axed in borough A, special needs teachers in borough B, and peripatetic music teachers almost everywhere.

Blair will not be the nation's darling for ever. Nor is it useful. The usefulness of his princely warnings in the past was precisely that they were unfashionable and he didn't care.

Charles rolled his own bandwagons once, using his status to start lively debates on medicine, on the distance of architects from human scale and on the need for a less brutal agriculture. He worked hard to experience and understand these things; his roll of adviser was impressive. In some areas, like organic farming, his ideas have slid into mainstream thinking.

Education is different. The education minister, Stephen Byers, did say that the Prince had raised important issues, but that was sycophantic flim-flam. Education is already right at the heart of political and public debate, overwhelmed, indeed by noisy attempts to reform it. The Prince has no new expertise, observation, or even anecdotal experience to contribute to that debate. All he can possibly do is stir up anger and division, as he did at the weekend.

Back, Prince, back! The value of royalty lies not in tactless political soundbites but in a steady, kindly, reliable endorsement of bedrock values. The Queen has always understood this: she holds her tongue on politics and detail, and endorses only indisputable and eternal values like honour and service, frugality, justice, endurance and discretion. The Princess Royal blows the odd fuse (on subjects like the counselling industry) but generally keeps her head down, her patronage steady, her research rigorous, and her salient views for her own circle.

Charles has done fine work, especially through the Prince's Trust. But he mars it when he is rash and unadvised and sudden, petulant in disapproval of things he does not understand, arrogant and self-indulgent in his private life, dangerously unconscious of how he seems, and prone to voicing half-baked general condemnations into microphones. I wish it were not so, because despite all these unkind remarks, I value the monarchy, and respect the Prince. I honour the present Queen's dogged, bedrock tradition of service to the nation, and want it to endure. But there is no point denying that sometimes, listening to her heir thinking aloud on television, I have a sinking feeling that it may not.

He mustn't. It is not safe — Mr

Libby Purves

education have always advocated? It does not herd its clients into rows near blackboards; it listens, encourages their interests and individual talents, guides them tactfully through the business maze and backs them with money and steadfast belief. I have met dozens of them, doing everything from installing Rasta hair-extensions to welding up bangers: they are grateful for the very modern, unstuffy approach of the Prince's Trust administrators. No; if you want to respect the Prince of Wales, look at the people who work for him.

Of course, these are heady times. The Blair landslide must make it seem to the heir as if all his own beliefs have at last been vindicated. It is easy to see his temptation to throw aside royal caution and be perceived as a key adviser to an exciting new young Prime Minister. He himself is middle-aged now, battered by divorce and satire, his private life made into an ongoing tabloid farce. Anything which suggests that he is integral to a new, socially advancing Britain must be irresistible. Everyone likes to run down the street after a circus band, especially when it is playing your own tune.

He mustn't. It is not safe — Mr

We won't let Foster outfox us

Clive Aslet urges MPs to keep the urban pack at bay

I am a cruel and barbaric person. I should not be allowed to write the arguments myself and make my own mind. Members of Parliament are better able to do that on behalf. This is the implication of Bill announced by Michael Foster the fresh-faced MP for Worcester. I enjoy hunting, just as Mr Foster enjoys own (to me repulsive) sport competition angling. It is a sign of new intolerance in British society: we can no longer rub along.

I took up hunting five years ago with the intention of experiencing sport that I imagined would soothe or later be outlawed. I approached with eyes, as I thought, unclouded prejudice. I came to discover, however, that almost everything I imagined about it was wrong. Hunting is not a sport, it is a way of life. It is a section of the population (seen as toffs) having fun in ways that are unfamiliar to it. It was surprised to find that every shire pack attracts all kinds of followers. Even those mounted horses are not necessarily rich. I have never met anyone who lusted at the death of an animal. It is paradox, but hunting people respect foxes and want to see a healthy population of them kept in countryside.

If hunting were banned, my life would be diminished, as I believe life of Britain would be diminished. But then I only hunt a few days a season. To many country people hunting is nothing less than their life. It embodies that sense of community which Tony Blair exhorts us rediscover in other areas. It unites people of very different levels of income. The diary of puppy shot point-to-point meetings, hunter tri and social evenings, quite apart from hunting, gives neighbours the opportunity to meet each other. Now that few people work in agriculture, country can be a lonely place.

That explains the passion of sports followers. It will be a simply a pro-hunting event to take place in Hyde Park on July 10. A crowd could be well over 100,000. They will not be people who are naturally to demonstrating, but it is very strongly that they should be allowed to run their own lives.

Hunting could be to Mr Blair what the poll tax was to Marga Thatcher — unless, as seems likely, the Government allows this Privy Member's Bill to die for lack of time. To many country people the attack their sport symbolises their opposition at the hands of alien officials who has now been made worse the lack of country voices in Parliament. There are virtually no English MPs from rural backgrounds on Labour benches, and few among the new Tory intake. There is a sense of being alienated from rural dwellers which causes emotions to run high.

If hunting is banned, I shall give up keeping my horse. I do not pretend that this, by itself, will bring the rural economy to its knees. (I recall a remark of a member of the Royal Family, after I had revealed what I thought to be the immense extravagance of owning a horse: "Only of horses? How sweet." Nevertheless, it is a stable owner, the farrier, the saddler and the vet will all be the poorer. The idea that people would lose jobs hunting ceased was greeted with disbelief and a giggle at Mr Foster press conference yesterday.

Mr Foster believes himself to be motivated by the desire to relieve cruelty to animals. To country people this seems all but incomprehensible given the agonising deaths that are suffered by, say, poisoned rats without any outcry from the urban public. If I believed hunting to be crueler than other means of controlling foxes, I would not do it. But hunting is the only method of killing that gives the fox a quick death, allows it to get clean away. It is also the only one that generally culls on the sick and the old. Shooting does not kill all foxes outright — some die slowly. Nor does the shooter differentiate between victims. Yet shooting is licensed marksmen is the method of dispatch favoured by Mr Foster ally, Professor Stephen Harris.

Professor Harris is a man of singular views. He believes, for example, that urban foxes do not scavenge from dustbins. This contradicts the evidence of many people's eyes. Yesterday he stated that "many farmers do not regard foxes as a pest". I have never met a single farmer who holds that opinion. The issue is how best to control foxes without exterminating them from the countryside altogether.

In the end, though, the debate about hunting is a waste of time. Hunting must die, eventually, of its own accord. The pressures that the late 20th century has brought to bear upon the countryside will be too much for it. The open country, with hedges and copses, is disappearing. Hunting depends upon just the sort of landscape that the public most enjoys. Better to protect than ban the sport which created it.

The author is Editor of Country Life

Hot property

OVER-EXCITEMENT in the stunt department of the new James Bond film caused havoc in north London yesterday when the fire brigade was summoned to put out a fire at Brent Cross shopping centre.

The special effects department had set fire to three cars in the car park to give the impression that they had been hit by bazookas in the Bond movie *Tomorrow Never Dies*.

Within seconds, flames were



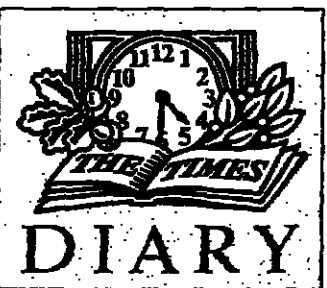
London's burning: Brosnan

shooting towards the ceiling, acrid black smoke was filling the area and the car park where the scene was being filmed had to be evacuated. Pierce Brosnan had been filming on the site last week, but none of the cast was there yesterday.

"There was a column of smoke clearly visible half way round London's North Circular road," said an onlooker. In what some members of the production team described as an over-reaction, four fire engines, three police cars and two ambulances arrived. "Our officers used breathing apparatus and two hose reels. It was a serious fire and we are happy that we were called on perfectly valid grounds," said a fire brigade spokesman.

Eon Productions, the film company, insisted that nobody was endangered, although smoke damage was extensive, and light fittings and concrete were burnt. "We called the fire brigade as a precautionary measure."

After announcing his Private Members' Bill, Mike Foster, Labour MP for Worcester, has had his office bombed with telephone calls and faxes. So, too, has Mike



Foster, MP for Hastings and Rye and another new Labour arrival in the Commons, who has nothing to do with the anti-hunting Bill. A call to his office was answered yesterday with the timid greeting: "Are you sure you want Mike Foster of Hastings and Rye?"

All clear?

TONY BLAIR'S attendance at the European summit in Amsterdam yesterday was headline news at lunchtime on ITN, but viewers were interested in only one item: why was Michael Brunson, the Political Editor, wearing dark glasses on a cloudy day?

Back in London, the switchboard was besieged by callers concerned for the health of their sturdy political pin-up. "It was nothing sinister," explained ITN. "No black eyes

or hayfever, not even a hangover. Simply a pair of sunglasses."

Master's voice

TREMENDOUS news for Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, who has been doing sterling work pushing William Hague to the Tory leadership. So effective has he been, not least in promoting the rude health of Hague's relationship with his fiancée Fiona Jenkins, that it is being said that he has been pencilled in for the post of



"Would you rather be shot, poisoned or savaged by dogs?"

Hague's PPS. It is felt that Duncan, a bag-carrier nonpareil who used to be Brian Mawhinney's PPS, could perform a skunkish, Mandelsonian role for Hague if he is elected Tory leader; a role best performed free from the shackles of a post in the Shadow Cabinet.

Foxy ladies

THERE is concern among the bluestockings of Wycombe Abbey School, Bucks, over a BBC film recently shot on its grounds which using some of the pupils as extras. *Bright Hair* tells the story of a schoolgirl who becomes involved with a Svengali-like master. Amelia Fox, daughter of the actor Edward Fox, is playing the psychotic schoolgirl.

"The girls have been fascinated by the story," said one parent, "and I think the headmistress may be regretting letting the film crew in." A call to the school bursar reveals some measure of confusion. "I was under the impression," said the bursar, Mr Rainbow, "that it was about a schoolmaster and a school mistress, not a schoolgirl."

That's my girl

MORE long lenses than ever are likely to be skulking around Bal-



Meet the folks: Henriette

moral this summer as the Royal Family takes its Scottish break. Sources close to Prince Andrew say that he intends to take his new girlfriend, Henriette Peace, to meet the family in Scotland.

The Prince has been walking out with Henriette, 29, who works for the BBC, since the beginning of the year, but they have yet to be photographed together. Yesterday, Buckingham Palace cordially declined to be drawn. "It's a private visit."

P.H.S

THE EYES OF... years on, salute the



THE TORY TASK

Recovery requires a leader to face the federalists

Baroness Thatcher has never found it difficult to express an opinion but even she cannot bring herself to endorse any of the candidates left running for the leadership of the Conservative Party. It is not difficult to understand why. Although each has strengths, all are flawed. To endorse any of them full-heartedly would mean contriving a naive enthusiasm and suppressing mature scepticism. Endorsement now, in any case, can be of only limited purpose. The momentum and numbers are with William Hague and he seems fated to secure the prize. He has done nothing to make that an injustice but little so far to make it fitting. It will, in any case, be a prize worth winning only if Mr Hague and his party show themselves capable of learning from the humiliation so recently inflicted upon them.

Speaking last night in Oxford Lord Archer sought to tutor his party in lessons from Labour. His analysis of the superiority of the Labour machine, a "chiefdom tank" to the Tories' cavalry charge, is accurate as far as it goes, but it does not begin to go far enough. By concentrating on the need for organisational reform Lord Archer, like his preferred candidate, Mr Hague, is dealing with a symptom not a cause. It is certainly true that the Tories need to overhaul their organisation and democratise their structures but they need more than re-engineering; they require a new direction.

Labour did not win because its campaign was superior. The party's election effort was more than a match for the Conservatives in 1987 and 1992. Labour won because its message was coherent, its leader convincing and the Tories were neither. The Conservatives forfeited the electorate's trust, provided no persuasive social vindication for their return to office and were incapable of communicating to the outside world why the issue that consumed them — Europe — was of such importance.

John Redwood is right to argue that the

Tories' European civil war can only be satisfactorily concluded with victory for one side or another. To leave the issue of entry to a single currency open is to invite the two sides of the argument to a five-year wrestle on the Reichenbach Falls. The Tories should give that madness a miss and the election of a new leader must settle the matter.

The case for Mr Hague rests on the belief that he will be best able to articulate a policy of clear opposition to a single currency while reaching out to federalists within Conservative ranks. The spread of his support certainly suggests he could provide inclusive leadership, although it may also mean that some who repose hopes in him now will face disillusionment. How Mr Hague will heal his fractured party is still difficult to discern but he is, at least, right to recognise that "it is more important to have a cohesive team than to have every person in the party in it".

The prospect that some Tories may leave the fray, or at least its frontline, to play the backbench Achilles would be a matter for regret but not distress. The memory of Labour in the Eighties haunts Tory dreams but their current divisions do not yet bear direct comparison. The failure of the Social Democrats in 1983, and the difficulties Alan Howarth endured on the road to Newport via Damascus, provide a warning for those contemplating desertion. More than that, the Tory federalists do not have the consolation of knowing, as the SDP defectors did, that their views are closer than their opponents to the voters' instincts.

When Labour moved to unilateralism it moved away from a public who favoured keeping the bomb. As the Tories have moved away from the single currency they have found that public support has hardened for keeping the pound. Within the Opposition a sceptical stance has to be taken for granted; political energies have to be released for deployment elsewhere. Mr Hague seems to appreciate that lesson.

NOT DEAD YET

The Middle East peace process can still move forward

The distinction between an impasse and a stalemate might seem rather subtle, but it is very significant in the Middle East. The outward signs for the peace process of late have been discouraging. For the past three months serious dialogue has been suspended. The Har Homa housing project initiated by Israel in March has led Yasser Arafat to boycott further deliberations. The continued deadlock partly explains Binyamin Netanyahu's decision to cancel his visit to the US this week.

Mr Netanyahu has had other distractions. His role in the Bar-On scandal nearly forced his resignation: only on Sunday did the Israeli Supreme Court make it clear that neither he nor his Minister for Justice would be indicted. His fractious coalition is in further crisis over appointments and legislation. Dennis Ross, the American mediator, failed to restart the peace process. Egypt's Osama el-Baz has taken on that task without immediate success.

The prospects for peace are not as poor as such incidents might suggest. The process remains the only plausible option for both Mr Netanyahu and Mr Arafat. The Har Homa dispute is more symbolic than substantive. It lies on Jewish land between two existing Jewish settlements. In different times it would not have provoked the current controversy. It has become a trial of strength between the two sides, part of an intense pattern of positioning before the prospective onset of "final status" talks.

The same was true last September when Israel opened a second entrance to the tunnel that runs beneath the Muslim quarter of the old city of Jerusalem. That was bitterly denounced by Mr Arafat and the Palestine National Authority. Accusations of sacrilege abounded. It apparently provoked the violent exchanges between the Israeli

Army and Palestinian police that truly shook peace to its foundations. Yet once Israel agreed to redeploy its troops from Hebron the protests abated.

The two sides need to extricate themselves from the present impasse. Mr Arafat has said he will not return to the bargaining table unless building at Har Homa is suspended. Mr Netanyahu was apparently inclined to concede a short-term pause but dissociated himself from that idea once it was leaked to the press by the Palestinian side. The solution, like the problem itself, lies elsewhere. Mr el-Baz has rightly concentrated on finding other areas where Israel can satisfy the Palestinians. Mr Netanyahu has offered to accelerate Arab housing developments in Jerusalem. Mr Netanyahu has also offered his first thoughts on what principles would guide him in final status negotiations. These gestures should prove sufficient to soon persuade Mr Arafat to resume the dialogue.

Those fresh talks will not go far if the present structure for the peace process is retained. The prolonged "interim" phase preceding final status talks has almost invited the endless disputes and reciprocal brinkmanship that have marked the last twelve months. That would probably be true even if Shimon Peres had been re-elected in Israel. The only way of avoiding endless advance manoeuvring is to move to the ultimate round as quickly as possible.

Mr Arafat has resisted that suggestion, preferring instead slowly to accumulate concessions from Israel. He has been willing to encourage violent demonstrations as part of this practice. As the Har Homa affair has demonstrated, that is a deeply risky strategy. Once the process resumes it should do so in full. If not the next impasse may indeed evolve into an enduring stalemate.

THE EYES OF JUSTICE

Forty years on, salute the conscience of society

Views that were once seen as radical by the legal establishment have quietly but firmly become mainstream. It is no longer thought subversive to believe that the British criminal justice system is capable of producing miscarriages of justice or that the European Convention on Human Rights should be incorporated into domestic law. In part this is a reflection of a generational change at the top of the profession. But it has also come about thanks to the thoughtful and unremitting work of Justice, the all-party law reform group, which celebrates its 40th anniversary today.

The organisation has much to celebrate. A series of high-profile victims of wrongful conviction have been released from jail. Not only has Justice won these individual cases; it can now hand over responsibility for investigating miscarriages of justice to the new Criminal Cases Review Commission.

The official recognition that mistakes can be made, even in British courts, is perhaps Justice's greatest achievement. Before the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice was set up, many judges thought it heretical even to suggest that they and their juries could send innocent people to jail. To hold this view was said to undermine confidence in the criminal justice system. In reality it was the growing number of bad convictions that was undermining public confidence. The

Criminal Cases Review Commission is a formal acknowledgement of the need to investigate, rather than cover up or deny, suspicions of wrongful convictions. The culture of complacency has been overturned.

But Justice is not merely a pressure group for innocent people in jail, though that has been the most public of its activities. It also works effectively, and often behind the scenes, on law reform. It has an untarnished reputation for impartiality and its detailed research reports carry weight with politicians and civil servants.

The organisation's influence has brought about the ombudsman system, the original Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme and data protection laws. It has helped to ensure the inclusion of some safeguards in the much criticised measures for disclosure of evidence, and has made asylum procedures and sentencing fairer.

The key to Justice's success is that it commands respect and backing from top lawyers across the political spectrum. Studiedly non-partisan, the organisation seeks merely to safeguard the liberties of the citizen. Lord Alexander of Weedon, Justice's chairman, describes it as "the conscience of the legal profession". In the pioneering work it has done over the past 40 years, it has a wider claim too to be seen as the conscience of society.

Financial rethink in defence review

From Squadron Leader T. A. Chivers, RAF (ret)

Sir, David Hart's worries about the defence operational audit and the relationship between ministers and decision-makers ("We can have more bang for our bucks", June 5), while important, pale into insignificance beside more fundamental questions.

Is the continuance of our Rapid Reaction Force in Germany meant to deter the Russians or to reassure the United States about our commitment to NATO?

Would political and diplomatic adjustments not make our costly, post-imperial garrisons in Cyprus, Brunei and the Falklands unnecessary?

One wonders whether the Royal Navy really needs its commando assault ships, and if so, what for. Is a force of about 30 destroyers/frigates adequate for the defence of these islands?

Does the RAF need over 200 frighteningly expensive Eurofighters, or would an off-the-shelf purchase instead, say, from the United States really devastate Britain's aerospace industry?

New Labour will undoubtedly wish to continue the Trident programme, but some thought must surely be devoted to the likelihood of our ever unleashing a nuclear missile against, perhaps, a Middle Eastern power. Their rulers' lack of rationality might render them impervious to the threat of such a weapon. Indeed, deterrence itself, long the staple of many academics as well as of the military, needs to be reviewed.

Yours faithfully,
T. A. CHIVERS
(Senior lecturer in defence and international affairs, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, 1989-94),
23 Norwich Road,
Northwood Hills, Middlesex,
June 9.

From Rear-Admiral
J. P. W. Middleton

Sir, David Hart's article displays a narrow actuarial approach which ignores the threats and sins of the Armed Forces. To view them, in the drab language of bureaucracy, simply as providers of units of defence capability is to misunderstand the complex, long-term aspects of training and ethos which are needed to deliver capability, not just now but far into the future.

Great damage is already being done. The *Front Line First* study (reports and leading article, July 15, 1994) largely set aside the vital contribution to sustainability and credibility made by logistic and maintenance excellence. The plethora of agencies now established all nibble away at uniformed expertise and at valuable sources of versatile, trained manpower. Putting training out to contract threatens the continuity of relevant experience guaranteed by trainers drawn from front-line units.

My concern is that too many service officers within the Ministry of Defence have taken the honeyed bait provided by Mr Hart and his ilk and have adopted, with great enthusiasm, this simplistic attitude. A headquarters full of management accountants is unlikely to impress the troops — ours or theirs.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK MIDDLETON
(Chief Staff Officer (Support) to the C-in-C Fleet, 1989-92),
Manor, Chilmark, Wiltshire,
June 9.

Regulation of auditors

From the President of the
Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales

Sir, How reassuring to read the article by Austin Mitchell, MP ("Calling auditors to account", *Business*, May 29), calling for the end of self-regulation in the auditing and insolvency sector. We have a new Government, new ministers, new issues. But Mr Mitchell is still playing his Bourbon tune: learnt nothing and forgotten nothing.

As Mr Mitchell well knows, the accountancy bodies are not trade associations. They operate under a royal charter that requires them to maintain standards in the public interest. The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales regulates some 8,000 audit firms and around 1,000 insolvency practitioners under statute. It examines carefully all complaints, from the DTI and elsewhere, and takes action appropriate in the circumstances.

Audit regulation at the institute has never been "chaps regulating chaps". There has been lay involvement at all points in the process and publicity for any firm that has its audit registration withdrawn. The independent joint disciplinary scheme publishes a report on each public-interest case when it reaches its conclusions.

These most complex of cases take time to process. But the fines and costs against members and firms have often been substantial. Delays in the case of BCCI arose when the disciplinary scheme was subject to a court decision preventing it from investigating the role of the auditors while other investigations were in train.

Yours faithfully,
C. N. LAINE, President,
The Institute of Chartered
Accountants in England and Wales,
Chartered Accountants' Hall,
PO Box 433,
Moorgate Place, EC2 2BJ.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Crucial factors in leadership choice

From Mr Giles Chichester, MEP for
Devon and East Plymouth (European
People's Party Parliamentary Group
(Conservative))

Sir, I am fascinated to learn that all the 17 Conservative MEPs who were consulted about the leadership of the party reached the same conclusion in favour of Ken Clarke (report, June 11).

There are two schools of opinion within our ranks, one more Europhile and a smaller one, including myself, more Eurosceptic. So it is all the more remarkable that we should all, separately and individually, make the same judgment about the future, as did a clear majority of every section of the party except MPs themselves. Who then is more in touch with opinion?

For my part I am not so keen on what I perceive as Mr Clarke's views on the European issue, but I think it is more important for party and country that we go for a man of wide ministerial experience, who is the only candidate with experience of being in opposition and who is most likely to keep the party firmly on the centre-right ground which we must hold in order to win the next general election.

Labour can't wait for us to make the same mistake it did after the 1979 election when it voted for ideological purity and turned down Denis Healey, the one man who would then have posed us serious problems.

Yours faithfully,
GILES CHICHESTER,
48 Queen Street, Exeter, Devon,
June 13.

From Mrs Norma Graves

Sir, Both Kenneth Clarke and William Hague were part of John Major's Cabinet that chose to ignore the message which the grass roots and the general public were sending to them. John Redwood, on the other hand, was against VAT on fuel and eventually resigned from the Cabinet, urging the Government to change its policies ("no change, no chance"). The present situation might not have arisen if Cabinet members and MPs had put party and country before self-preservation.

The Conservative Party needs a leader with intellect, ability, integrity and clarity of vision. John Redwood has shown he has all these and that he can perform well in the House. The result from his constituency in the general election was the best of all the leadership contenders — a clear message of confidence from people who know him.

Yours etc,
NORMA GRAVES,
The Garth House,
Tillingham, Petworth, West Sussex,
June 16.

From Mrs L. A. Skinner

Sir, With all due respect to Mr Hague's great talents and potential for the future, if the Conservatives had won the last election and it had been announced that in the new Cabinet Mr Hague would occupy the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary or Foreign Secretary, there would have been a lot of raised eyebrows in the country, to put it mildly. Now we are told that in less than

five years he will be ready to challenge for the post of the Prime Minister of Great Britain — is this some kind of gallows humour?

Yours faithfully,
L. A. SKINNER,
28 Lakeside Avenue,
Llandrindod Wells, Powys,
June 12.

From Mr Andrew Cruickshank

Sir, Kenneth Clarke's team boasts that their man has the majority support of constituency members round the country. Of course he does. These are the supine and sycophantic rump who unthinkingly supported every step which led to the final debacle.

Of more concern should be the views of ex-members (like myself after 30 years) who could no longer stomach the appeasement and fudge on Europe. The Conservative Party has little hope of re-election until it can convince its lost support that it will re-assess and defend Britain's status as an independent sovereign nation.

There is one person who recognises this policy imperative. John Redwood was the only Conservative with the guts to take up John Major's gauntlet in 1995 and with the political nous to prophesy "no change, no chance" — which came spectacularly true two years on.

Yours faithfully,
A. A. C. CRUICKSHANK,
The Doone,
Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey,
June 16.

From Lord Laing of Dunphail

Sir, It has been said that some people can understand and not decide and others can decide and not understand and that very few can do both.

The electorate, rightly or wrongly, perceived a degree of indecision during the period of the last Government.

I have never met Mr Hague, but his change of stance overnight with Michael Howard must put a question mark over his ability to decide.

What we need above all in the party now is a leader with the power of command, control and decision. Mr Ken Clarke clearly holds the high ground on all these counts. With the difficulties the party has experienced in the last few years these qualities seem to me to be crucial. Additionally there is no substitute for experience. That is why I support Ken Clarke.

Yours sincerely,
HECTOR LAING,
High Meadows, Windsor Road,
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire,
June 16.

From Mr Anthony Plant

Sir, The canvassing on behalf of the various candidates has led me to a firm conclusion: the Conservative Party should have resigned after the last election so that Mr Major could elect a new one.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY B. PLANT,
178 Clay Lane,
South Yardley, Birmingham.
tony.plant@compuserve.com
June 16.

World Service future

From the Managing Director of
BBC World Service

Sir, Brenda Maddox's description of the World Service as having been "dis-mantled from within" and left with only "the facade and some rooms at the back" (Media and Marketing, June 11) is not one that people in Bush House would recognise. It is also disappointing to see three former managing directors (letter, June 13) more at pains to depict World Service as having been wrecked than to join in celebrating its successes and looking forward to an exciting future.

A service which has just launched news in Cantonese on the Internet (and received 100,000 "hits" in one month), recently opened an FM service available in Zaire and the Congo and is about to launch a morning

drive-time radio programme across the US must, by any definition, have real substance.

Brenda Maddox also misunderstood the position on efficiency savings at BBC World Service. There is no question, after restructuring, of the BBC "hacking back" the savings for itself. All money from the grant-in-aid from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is of course ring-fenced. The savings made will come directly to World Service and contribute to making us even more competitive and better able to deliver new and improved services to listeners.

Yours sincerely,
SAM YOUNGER,
Managing Director,
BBC World Service,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Bush House,
PO Box 76, Strand, WC2.

Sales patter

From Mr Peter Moss

Sir, How strange that people should object to the phrase "There you go" (Mr Terry Sadler's letter, June 13) as used by shop assistants and others, when for years we have accepted the equally meaningless "There you are".

Yours faithfully,
PETER MOSS,
24 Quaggy Walk, Blackheath, SE3.

From Mr John Hudson

Sir, Here you are, Mr Sadler; but is this much more meaningful than "There you go"?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUDSON,
55 Gibbon Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

From Mr W. A. Allison

Sir, Having purchased a pair of chinos from a large store in Detroit, I walked away from the till and heard the sales assistant say "Enjoy your pants".

I am pleased to say I have.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW ALLISON,
Greenways, Eaton Lane,
Cotebrook, Tarporey, Cheshire,
June 13.

007's 'Q'

From Mr Andrew Lycett

Sir, By concentrating on films, the estimable Desmond Llewellyn (letter, June 6) does not tell the whole story. "Q" is to be found in Ian Fleming's original James Bond books, but not as an individual. Right from Fleming's first novel, *Casino Royale* (published in 1953), Q Branch (or Section) Kit Bond with an interesting array of gadgets.

In *From Russia With Love* (1957), "Q's craftsmen" provide an "overnight bag" which includes a tube of Palmolive shaving cream — the top of which unscrews to reveal the silencer of a Beretta pistol packed in cotton wool. Shortly before, a Glaswegian gun enthusiast called Geoffrey Boothroyd wrote to Fleming saying that Bond's preferred Beretta was a "ladies' gun" and Q07 needed something sturdier like a Smith & Wesson revolver.

Fleming acknowledged his debt by introducing a character, Major Boothroyd (otherwise known as the Armoured), in *Dr No* (1958), or four years before the first Broccoli/Saltzman Bond film.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW LYCETT
(author, *Ian Fleming*,
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1995),
34 Torbay Road, NW6.

Blair and human rights in Australia

From Mr Jeremy Hobbs and others

Sir, This week Mr Blair is to meet the Australian Prime Minister, Mr John Howard.

Our countries share a common heritage enshrining support for basic human rights for all, and recent statements by Mr Robin Cook indicate Britain's renewed determination to place ethics and human rights concerns at the centre of its foreign policy. We hope, therefore, that in his discussions Mr Blair will raise the new Australian Government's policies towards the indigenous people of this country.

The rights of these people have long been under assault. They suffer from lack of access to basic services such as healthcare, education, housing and clean water and sanitation. The result is appalling living standards, evidenced by high infant-mortality rates and a life expectancy for an average indigenous Australian about twenty years less than for the non-indigenous.

For indigenous Australians the connection to land is critical to material betterment. It is an avenue for great economic security and is of great cultural and spiritual importance. Yet the Australian Government is proposing legislation which could effectively extinguish their title over vast tracts of Australia.

Australians have recently been shocked by the revelation that our parents' generation perpetrated the systematic theft of Aboriginal children in the belief that it was for their own good (reports, June 12). If the Government's native-title plan succeeds, the wrongs of the past will be compounded by the extinction of the modest native title indigenous people have only recently acquired — effectively this would mean the second great land grab since Captain Arthur Phillip landed in 1788.

It is a cruel irony that the 1967 constitutional amendment, which gave Aboriginal people citizenship in their own country but also centralised their affairs under the Federal Government, could now be used to deprive them of their land.

It is increasingly clear that international pressure may be one of the few ways by which the Australian Government can be convinced to change course. As representatives of predominantly non-indigenous community organisations and unions in Australia, working closely with indigenous peoples, we urge Mr Blair to raise these issues with Mr Howard.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY HOBBS
(Executive Director,
Community Aid Abroad,
Oxford in Australia),
JENNIE GEORGE
(President, Australian Council of
Trade Unions),
PETER PERTH
(Anglican Archbishop of Perth),
KEVIN DANCE
(President, Australian Conference of
Leaders of Religious Institutes),
c/o Community Aid Abroad,
156 George Street,
Fitzroy, Victoria 3065,
June 16.

Run out

From Mr Daniel Lightman

Sir, In support of his prediction that the British electorate may in the future prefer substance over style, William Rees-Mogg ("The Oxford vote race", June 12) states that Geoffrey Boycott ended up making more runs than the far more stylish David Gower.

Not so. Before the selectors prematurely dropped him from the England side Gower, with 8,231 runs, had just crept past the Test career aggregate (8,114 runs) of the gritty Yorkshireman.

Throughout his career Gower's problem was that his panache led people to think him less effective than he was. It would appear from Rees-Mogg's article that this perception continues even in retirement.

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL LIGHTMAN,
13 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
June 13.

March of progress

From Mr Alan Birch

Sir, Has not the time come to amend Professor Parkinson's Law to "Work expands to meet the information technology capability available"?

Yours now in e-mail,
A. BIRCH,
39 Chawn Park Drive,
Stourbridge, West Midlands.
a.j.d.birch@lineone.net
June 16.

From Mr John Copeland

Sir, May I be among the first to congratulate you on the e-mail facility for the letters page.

A real benefit @The Times.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COPELAND,
The Hall Yard,
Burton-by-Lincoln, Lincolnshire.
johncopeland@clara.net
June 16.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

OBITUARIES

AMOS TUTUOLA

Amos Tutuola, Nigerian novelist, died in Ibadan on June 8 aged 77. He was born in 1920.

Although it delighted, engrossed and astonished so many readers in the English speaking world outside Africa, *The Palm-Wine Drinkard* (1952), the undoubted masterpiece of the Yoruba folklorist and storyteller Amos Tutuola, was not at first much liked in his native Nigeria. This had something to do with the "quaintness" of his English which, while charming and funny, appeared to present a view of Africans to which Europeans could condescend if they chose.

Since it was the first book by an anglophone African author to be published commercially in a large edition this was perhaps unfortunate. But the perception that Tutuola had "let the side down" did less than justice to him and his work. Though intellectually simple minded, he had a powerful imagination and an autonomous mind. Although he was badly educated and his English was poor, there was nothing bogus about his perceptions.

He was probably the exemplar of a naive in the sense the word "primitive" is used of painters' writers of this century. His work fell off in quality, and his real stature was questioned by some of his fellow Nigerians; but he will certainly be remembered for his story of Nigerian village life, *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*, which is a prose epic on a legendary scale.

Amos Tutuola was born in June 1920 the did not know the exact date, in Abeokuta, a large Yoruba town in Western Nigeria 60 miles from Lagos. His father was a cocoa farmer.

He did very well in such schools as Nigeria then had to offer. At the age of 12 he attended the Anglican Central School in Abeokuta and was always proud of the scholastic progress he made there. But when his father suddenly died in 1938 he had to forgo further education because, as he wrote, "the rest of my parents were so poor that they could not assist me".



The following year he went to Lagos to learn smithery and joined the Royal Air Force as a blacksmith in 1942. He served in the RAF for the remainder of the war and on his discharge in 1945 he became a junior civil servant in the Department of Labour. After he had written his first three books and become internationally famous, he joined, in

1956, the Nigerian Broadcasting Company as a storekeeper in Ibadan.

Tutuola was brought up a Christian and was always a member of the African Church. It was the United Society for Christian Literature which was responsible for sending the manuscript of his first book, *The Palm-Wine Drinkard*, to London to the

publishing house of Faber & Faber. Dylan Thomas, who read it, called it "brief, thronged, grisly and bewitching".

That this story, in an oral tradition but made distinctly odd by Tutuola's unsophisticated English, is a remarkable achievement is beyond question. But its appeal to English language readers consists, in

part, in the naive language: "When my father noticed that I could not do any work more than to drink, he engaged an expert palm-wine tapper for me, he had no other work more than to tap palm-wine every day."

This prose, as well as the lifestyle to which it apparently assented, offended more sophisticated West African writers, who were quick to point out the extent of Tutuola's debt to the superior Yoruba writer D. O. Fagunwa (one of whose books was later translated from Yoruba into English by Wole Soyinka). However, Tutuola's writing is not merely quaint: he had a grasp — all the more secure for being so thoroughly naive — of Yoruba myth and legend, and he had a brilliant and original imagination, unsullied, so to speak, by the pale cast of thought or education or by critical preconception.

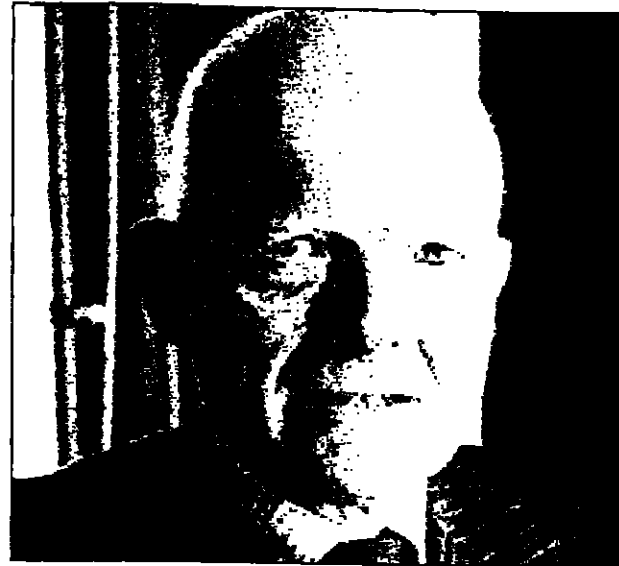
The notion, seriously considered by certain critics, that he had made a careful study of the works of Jung was absurd: he would have been quite incapable of this. But the comparison with Bunyan, who was also ill-educated, was more apt. Tutuola was certainly a visionary writer rather than a realistic novelist in the conventional mode.

Tutuola was a member of the Mbari Club, the publishers and writers' club in Ibadan, but he played no part in the intellectual life of Nigeria: he was neither influenced by nor did he influence such leading Nigerians as Chinua Achebe or Wole Soyinka. By universal consent, his work fell off.

He tended towards archness, having caught on to the fact that his use of English amused some of his foreign readers (however unfortunate that was). But there are fine moments in *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts* (1964), his second book, and even in some later ones such as *Feather Woman of the Jungle* (1962). The great first book was turned into an opera by the Yoruba composer Kola Ogumolola; it was translated into a dozen other languages. Tutuola married Victoria Akake in 1947; they had four sons and four daughters.

DONALD J. OLSEN

Donald J. Olsen, urban historian, died from a heart attack in Seattle, Washington, on May 19 aged 68. He was born there on January 8, 1929.



THE sudden death of Don Olsen at his home has deprived urban studies of one of its most distinguished and lucid minds, and his friends on both sides of the Atlantic of an unforgettable ally and mentor.

Don Olsen grew up as the only child of parents who were not well-off but who recognised his intelligence and supported him in his ambitions. He first travelled east to go to college at Yale, from where he received BA, MA and PhD degrees. In 1951-52 as a Fulbright scholar he visited London, where he spent a particularly cold winter in what was still postwar austerity.

His memories of the lodgings and food of that period were ironic but fond. It was then that he acquired the sense of London's 19th-century architecture and social organisation that was the basis of much of his subsequent work. In 1952-53 he taught at the University of Hull and subsequently at the University of Massachusetts. In 1955 he joined the faculty at Vassar, where he remained, teaching courses in medieval, Tudor and Georgian history as well as on his chosen area. He was department chairman in the early 1970s, having been made Ellery Professor of History in 1972.

His first full-length book, *Town Planning in London: the 18th and 19th centuries* (1964) grew out of his Fulbright work. It was essentially a case-history of the way the owners of estates in London's great period of expansion sought to develop their lands to create prestigious residential areas. Hermione Hobhouse, a colleague and friend, remembers Olsen's toughness of mind in appreciating the role of the estate owners, since intellectual prejudice circa 1960 ran very much against "the private landlord" in any form.

The next decade brought his *The Growth of Victorian London* (1976) and greater

international visibility. Subsequent studies in London and elsewhere as a Guggenheim Fellow produced *The City as a Work of Art: London, Paris, Vienna* (1986) of which his fellow historian David Cannadine wrote "A marvellous book, which brilliantly relates the form and functions of these three great cities to the political cultures and social values which moulded and created them."

Numerous people who came across Olsen remember him as a man always interested and involved and extraordinarily generous to fellow workers. Proficient in French, German and Italian, he eventually explored most of the cities of Europe, both east and west. Railways were a passion with him, as were ocean liners: he never flew anywhere if there was another means. He enjoyed good food, traditional hotels (of increasing comfort as his income rose) and congenial company. Unlike many academics, he spent time in libraries not because he was essentially a sedentary or retiring personality, but because of his thirst to know and understand.

At another level, however, he was of necessity, a loner, for he was quite severely disabled. He was born with spina bifida, survived against what, in the period of his infancy, were heavy odds, and grew up considerably impaired. As a young man he managed to walk, after a

fashion, and continued for several decades by sheer determination and the strength of his arms to get himself around on crutches. In his fifties, he was forced to take to a wheelchair, but nevertheless went on travelling and researching, frequently alone. That a man subject to such a physical limitation should have chosen a field of study requiring so much leg-work was remarkable: far more remarkable, however, was that he succeeded.

Many people have cheerful memories of trips inspired by him, frequently to travel on obscure tram routes or to view esoteric buildings on which he had set his sights. It is recalled how heavy his wheelchair could be to negotiate up cobbled streets or over steps — but of course it was just as heavy for Olsen himself, who would never admit to tiredness and was almost unfailingly good humoured. It may be that the constant physical strains to which he subjected himself were a contributory factor in the heart-attack that, without warning, removed him.

It is much to be hoped that the far-ranging work on the role and meaning of the street, on which he was still engaged at his death, can be put into publishable form by literary executor, Robert Smith of Emory University (Atlanta). He is survived by his very elderly mother, Anna Marie Olsen. He never married.

REGINALD BURTON

R. W. B. Burton, classical scholar, died on June 4 aged 88. He was born on December 5, 1908.

FOR more than forty years, Reggie Burton was a dedicated tutor and a devoted Fellow

of Oriel College, Oxford. A sensitive awareness of the needs of his pupils was at the heart not only of his teaching but also of his work as a scholar, which included a notably helpful introduction to that most daunting of Greek poets, Pindar.

Reginald William Boteler Burton was the only child of Brigadier-General R. G. Burton of the Indian Army and his wife E. M. Lumb. He was educated at Cheltenham College and Balliol. He became a Craven Scholar after Classical Honours Moderations and

immediately on graduation in 1931 obtained a lectureship at Oriel College, which was converted to a Fellowship a year later.

He remained a Fellow of Oriel until his retirement in 1976, hardly leaving except during the Second World War

to do intelligence work in the RAF, for which he was twice mentioned in dispatches. He was an Emeritus Fellow from 1976 until his death.

His devotion to Oriel had a double value for the college. On the one hand, he was a successful and much-loved tutor who took trouble to ensure that he could give each pupil thorough individual attention. For most of his career his teaching was largely linguistic, but in the last years he relished the opportunity afforded by new syllabuses to do more literary work.

On the other hand, he was permanently and deeply interested in the preservation of good personal relations within the Fellowship; and, as he was a man of great charm, tact and authentic good nature, he succeeded in making Oriel a really happy college.

His social talents made him the obvious person to be Steward of Common Room. He held the post for many years, and under his stewardship, the Oriel Common Room was a place where guests were made to feel especially welcome and where the inevitable squabbles between academics were soon smoothed away and shown to be petty.

His writings were an outgrowth from teaching and lecturing. *Pindar's Pythian Odes* (1962) was and is probably the most useful aid for a student approaching this difficult poet for the first time. *The Chorus in Sophocles' Tragedies* (1980) is a sensitive study which again made it much easier to engage with a sometimes neglected aspect of the poet's art.

Burton was a fine writer of Greek and Latin, composing Latin verse, particularly, for fun. The following lines of his appeared in the *Oxford Magazine* to offer a friend's Siamese kittens for sale.

Simaeca subolis peperit rarisima felis



*integro geminam sanguine progeniem.
Vendit hoc cavis domus par nobile fratrum
qui possit dignum suppeditare larem.*

(A rarest cat of the Siamese breed has given birth to pedigree twin kittens. Her master offers these blue-blooded

brothers to anybody who can give them a good home.)

He was married to Hester Woodhill of Beccles, Suffolk. Everyone was welcomed with great warmth at their Kidlington home, and their wide interests and obvious pleasure in the company of others made conversation with them an enjoyable and often uplifting experience, their keen sense of the ridiculous sometimes made it uproarious.

As a young man, Burton had been an amateur pianist of considerable talent, particularly in the works of Debussy and Ravel. In later years, his visits with his wife to the Aldeburgh Festival and his collection of compact discs gave him great pleasure.

His tastes in English literature were wide, but he had a particular love of the Shakespearean sonnets. Housman and Jane Austen, (on at least one occasion, this proved useful. Provost Phelps, meeting him for the first time when Burton was being dined at Oriel after his interview for his lectureship, opened his conversation with, "Tell me, Mr Burton, had you been Mr Knightley, would you have married Emma?") He was an enthusiastic and successful gardener and a knowledgeable naturalist.

His health and spirits were excellent right up to the time of his death, and he was able in retirement to indulge his many interests, and to watch with joy his many grandchildren grow to maturity.

His wife survives him together with three daughters.

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NEWS

Sinn Fein barred after double murder

The Government severed all contacts with Sinn Fein last night after the IRA shot dead two policemen in the centre of Lurgan, Co Armagh. Constable John Graham and Constable David Johnston died instantly when they were shot in the back of the head while on patrol near the town's RUC station.

The IRA's North Armagh brigade admitted responsibility and the Prime Minister, who was in Amsterdam, immediately cut off government talks with Sinn Fein. Pages 1, 2

Euro coin launched after compromise

The new European single currency coins were launched after a classic European Union compromise at the Amsterdam summit which led to France giving way to Germany and Tony Blair dropping objections to rigid budgetary rules governing monetary union. Pages 1, 14, 22

Hague out in front

William Hague powered ahead in the Tory leadership contest, gaining the support of Gillian Shephard and with enough declared votes to go into Thursday's third round. Pages 1, 23

Naomi laughs it off

Naomi Campbell shrugged off reports of a suicide attempt as she appeared smiling at a Paris photographic studio. She said she had suffered an allergic reaction to penicillin. Page 3

Opera for all

The Heritage Secretary wants the Royal Opera House to become the "people's opera" by widening the range of cheaper tickets and increasing the number of broadcast performances. Page 5

Still on the scent

The Labour MP Michael Foster is to pursue his campaign to ban hunting with hounds despite not winning the Government's immediate support. Page 6

Figard memorial

The parents of Celine Figard, 19, the French student who was murdered by a lorry driver in 1995, dedicated a memorial garden in Worcestershire. Page 7

Spiritual test

Actors willing to don crystal necklaces and a thoughtful expression are to join a medical trial when the Wellcome Trust pays £45,000 to test spiritual healing. Page 8

Why dry sandcastles stay standing

Children know that soggy sand makes tougher sandcastles. But the reason for a castle still standing when the sun has dried it out has been a mystery. American scientists have found that powerful "water bridges" are formed between granules of soggy sand which bind it together in clumps, creating an effect similar to that of mortar in brick buildings. Page 1

Waves of wrath

Alderney is angry that a Victorian breakwater may be allowed to fall into ruin because Guernsey, which is responsible for its maintenance, says it cannot afford £40 million for repairs. Page 9

Arab land sales

The campaign by Palestinians against Arabs who are suspected of selling land to Jews intensified as details of the death of a fourth land merchant in Ramallah were revealed. Pages 11, 23

Watergate watershed

Twenty-five years after Watergate, most Americans view it as a watershed which led to a universal distrust of Government: 78 per cent think it diminished the credibility of the presidency. Page 12

Pol Pot on the run

Khmer Rouge rebels were pursuing their ailing former leader, Pol Pot, through dense forest, hoping to capture him alive in the next few days. Page 13

Meaning of life

French pupils faced an awkward question as they sat the philosophy paper at the start of the national baccalauréat: "What am I doing here?" Page 15

Football murder

Larisa Nechayeva, head of the Russia's most popular football team, Spartak, was murdered in what police said was a gangland assassination. Page 15



The Queen and the Princess Royal leaving St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, after a service for the Order of the Garter

BUSINESS

Norwich Union: About 1.8 million Norwich Union policyholders got a handout of £1,000 as the Nationwide Building Society tried to deter speculators. Page 27

NatWest: Martin Owen, chief executive of the troubled investment banking arm, quit his post. Shares in the bank fell after a profits warning. Page 27

Compensation: Unit trust companies are considering introducing a new compensation programme in the wake of the Peter Young affair at Morgan Grenfell. Page 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 38.0 points to close at 4745.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index was down from 100.3 to 100.0 after rising from \$1.6350 to \$1.6383 but falling from DM2.8415 to DM2.8329. Page 30

SPORT

Tennis: Tim Henman, the British No. 1, became the first home player to be seeded in the men's singles at Wimbledon since Buster Mottram in 1982. Pages 50, 52

Rugby union: The tour game today against the Emerging Springboks provides the British Isles selectors with their last chance to check form before the first international of the tour. Page 52

Golf: Time is running out for Colin Montgomerie to collect a major title as he battles with Ernie Els, the bogeyman who keeps thwarting him. Page 50

Motor racing: The crash which put Olivier Panis out of the Canadian Grand Prix has revived the debate among Formula One drivers about car design and safety. Page 48

HOT HOUSES

Hot houses: From Cornwall to Wales, leading British architects are busy building huge futuristic botanical pleasure domes for the millennium. Page 18

Death in Venice: Rachel Whiteread is fêted at the Venice Biennale for a typically bold installation in a year which is preoccupied with images of mortality. Page 19

Spirit world: Social attitudes may change, but Mike Alfred's fine new staging of Ibsen's *Ghosts* in Hamman's proves this work has timeless qualities. Page 20

Live on stage: At the Barbican Hall on Thursday Lord Memmish's Live Music Now! scheme will celebrate its 20th year with a concert for an audience that is uniquely enthusiastic. Page 21

AGE DISEASES

Age diseases: At the age of 19, Anna Peckham, now a doctor, discovered that years of anorexia had left her with osteoporosis, a condition usually affecting old women. Page 16

You betcha: A new form of gambling, spread betting, has emerged especially among the affluent young, for whom it offers a charge of excitement that less sophisticated betting cannot match. Page 17

Net gain: A small electronics firm won a \$100,000 defence contract through networking. Page 33

Inside view: How television found a way around the problem of jury confidentiality. Page 39

Fighting injustice: Frances Gibb hails Justice, the organisation that is celebrating 40 years of fighting miscarriages of justice. Page 41

THE PAPERS

If fraud were an Olympic sport, Belgians would have no problem getting on to the highest steps of the rostrum. Our survey of a thousand people found that 61.4 per cent would unscrupulously commit fiscal fraud. — *La Dernière Heure*

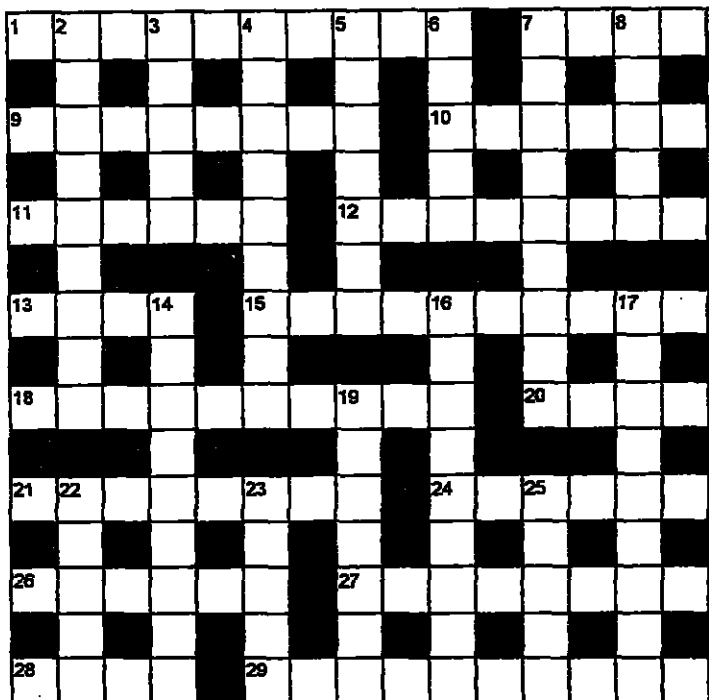
If the Pope really wants to consolidate Christianity, he should publicly order his legates to stop what the Russian Orthodox Church views as a spiritual expansion into its domain. — *Moscow Tribune*

IN THE TIMES

■ **INTERFACE**
Technology comes to Wimbledon, with high-speed systems on and off the court

■ **HOMES**
The winning estate agent who plans to restore faith in a tarnished profession

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,508



- ACROSS**
- Not to be swallowed (even with colder extremities removed) (10).
 - Author securing second advance (4).
 - Terrific crisis at extremely old age (8).
 - Ground leader of treachery abandoned (6).
 - At the end of it one's bound to be exhausted (6).
 - Old port run by US City Council (8).
 - Artist's beginning in style of primitive art (4).
 - Presenting no acting difficulty in Peter Pan, say (6,4).
 - Teenager getting financial help in rise (10).
 - Utterly correct ceremonial (4).
 - One selling or telling stories, perhaps (8).
- DOWN**
- Opposing players take heart to give repeat performance (6).
 - Peat work taken on by mistake (6).
 - Impressionist art I omit to review (8).
 - American worker of old in corral (4).
 - A promise of action (10).
 - Railwaymen prepared, one hears, to hold points for tender (9).
 - Head off schism to some extent (5).
 - Diverts drivers in races through Norfolk town (9).
 - Mounting transport disorder one cause for complaint (7).
 - Offence often linked to trial (5).
 - Unfinished spat with Europe, possibly, the cause of bad atmosphere (5-4).
 - Track succeeded without much financial support (5).
 - A feature topped by unadorned canopy (9).
 - Girl taking earnest of engagement, though uncertain (9).
 - For No. Ten a new PM (9).
 - Left out of education, deservedly so (7).
 - Outcast from English side joining the French (5).
 - Sin — line taken on part of the Church (5).
 - Church member joining appeal (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,507

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Times Two Crossword, page 52

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JUNE 17 1997

Windfall whirlwind sweeps Norwich and Nationwide

By MARIANNE CURPHEY
AND ANNE ASHWORTH

THE demutualisation windfall bonanza gathered pace yesterday with a minimum £1,000 payout for 1.8 million with-profit policyholders of Norwich Union, the insurer.

Meanwhile, the Nationwide, while still defending the merits of being a mutual, acted to deter speculators who believe that it will

be the next building society to become a bank.

Enthusiasm for the Woolwich flotation, due next month, has led to predictions of 332p as the opening price of the shares, giving a minimum windfall of £1,494. Earlier this year, the value of Woolwich shares was estimated at 175p to 200p.

In yesterday's first-day trading, Norwich Union shares rose 34½p above the initial strike price of 290p.

Those members who had subscribed for extra shares at a 25p-a-share discount to the institutional strike price of 290p saw a paper profit of almost 60p a share.

The heavily oversubscribed public offer meant there was strong demand for the stock. Within minutes of the start of trading, the shares had touched 356p. At the end of the first hour, the early enthusiasm dimmed a little. The stock

closed the day at 324½p. A total of 148 million shares changed hands. Some institutions were building holdings gradually, believing that the price may fall again next Monday, when members who applied for extra shares receive their certificates and can deal for the first time.

The Nationwide, now the largest society after the Halifax conversion, yesterday raised the minimum initial investment on its accounts to

stem the flow of money from new customers. Its popular InvestDirect postal account now has a minimum of £2,000, up from £500.

Although some Nationwide branches are asking prospective open accounts, the society denied that raising the minimum sum was primarily intended to deter carpet-baggers, although raising the minimum sum has become societies'

most common weapon against speculators. The Nationwide preferred to emphasise the success of its recent savings initiative, which has attracted customers from the Halifax and the Alliance & Leicester.

Citing "unwelcome speculative activity", the Coventry, the tenth-biggest society, doubled the minimum for postal accounts to £2,000.

Tempus, page 30

Owen quits NatWest over £90m 'black hole'

By ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

MARTIN OWEN, chief executive of NatWest's troubled investment banking arm, quit his post yesterday. This, along with a warning on first-half profits, sent shares in the UK bank sharply lower and wiped £735 million off its market value.

Mr Owen, an active member of the Salvation Army who joined NatWest in 1983, was still negotiating his pay-off last night. It is expected that the bank will honour his one-year rolling contract based on a basic annual salary of £300,000. At the end of last year Mr Owen also held a special share executive option on 167,175 NatWest shares, which yesterday closed at 796p, having started the day at 796p and at one point touched 819½p.

Derek Wanless, group chief executive of NatWest, is to take on the additional responsibility for NatWest Markets (NWM), where he has already worked, as acting chief executive. City analysts last night questioned whether Mr Wanless could fulfil both roles effectively.

NatWest had been under pressure to let Mr Owen go since the banking group announced in March that it had uncovered a £90 million "black hole" in the interest rate options book at NatWest Markets. Six employees were suspended pending the outcome of an internal investigation and Mr Owen voluntarily gave up £200,000 of his £500,000 bonus for last year.

An internal report into the derivative losses will be completed this month and passed to the Bank of England and

the Securities and Futures Authority, the City watchdog for brokers and futures dealers. The Serious Fraud Office is keeping a "watching brief" on the NWM situation.

Mr Owen oversaw the rapid expansion of NWM during his reign as chief executive, spending more than \$1 billion since October 1995 on a series of American acquisitions and on Cartmore, the successful UK fund manager.

Mr Wanless denied yesterday that NWM was to be sold and said that a strategic review was being carried out to improve "controls and risk management wherever necessary, and to focus on speeding up progress towards acceptable returns in key business areas".

He added: "This is not a lack of commitment to investment banking. We want to make sure that there is strong leadership and a clear direction for the business so that we make the most out of our acquisitions and a better return for our shareholders. Martin Owen and I both decided that it was proper to have a new chief executive."

Mr Owen did not go to his NWM office yesterday but went straight to NatWest Bank's headquarters in the City where his NatWest career was effectively finished.

NatWest, which recently brokered off merger talks with Abbey National, also admitted the problems at NWM would push first-half profits down to £770 million, below last year's figure.

Johnny de la Hay, a bank analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing (CLL), the broker, said profit estimates for NWM in the first half of this year, to be announced in early August, were £150 million compared with £261 million in the same period last year. The CLL forecast does not take into account the final £77 million loss attributed to the NWM interest rate options book.

Mr de la Hay, who said underlying costs at NWM were still rising by as much as 20 per cent, added: "We believe this will lead to a significant downsizing of NWM's operations."

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Martin Owen, chief executive of NWM, has been under pressure since the discovery of derivative losses in March that led to six staff suspensions

Beckett accuses US on aviation aid

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN PARIS

MARGARET BECKETT, President of the Board of Trade, said America is infringing a 1992 trade agreement with Europe and called for a response from the US Government. She said Airbus, British Aerospace, and other European aviation companies are operating at a disadvantage because American companies receive more government aid than is allowed under the trade agreement.

Mrs Beckett ruled out a trade war over the issue but told *The Times*: "We are mindful of international trade. It is quite straightforward; trade needs to be carried out under fair competition. That's all we're asking. No more, no less." Under the agreement, governments on both sides of the Atlantic commit themselves to limiting the level of direct and indirect subsidies. After talks with BAE and other UK aerospace companies, Mrs Beckett has come to the

conclusion that the US government is assisting its aircraft makers in contravention of the agreement. She has backed the EU's strongly worded letter to the US Government.

At the Paris Air Show, she met executives from BAE, GEC, and Rolls-Royce, who are lobbying the UK Government for an extra annual £100 million aid for research and development. She said: "The message from the Government is that we recognise the prime importance of the aerospace industry. This is a market place where UK companies can compete." The Government has not made a decision on the aid, she said. "We will look at it with great care." The package is currently being assessed by the DTI and the Ministry of Defence, which are being asked to split the £100 million between them.

Commentary, page 29

British Steel joins call for higher taxes

BRITISH STEEL has joined the call for higher tax rates to dampen the economy, as opposed to interest rate rises that would bolster sterling's strength (Christine Buckley writes).

The company, which as a large exporter suffers from a soaring pound, added its voice to the Confederation of British Industry and the British Chambers of Commerce. The business groups are pressing the Chancellor for fiscal measures to calm the economy rather than monetary intervention.

British Steel suffered a £400 million cost from the high pound and weak steel prices. Believing that sterling will remain high against the mark, the company is implementing a restructuring programme that will shed thousands of jobs. It is also squeezing suppliers for price reductions in a move likely to damage and close a number of small companies.

Raise taxes, page 28

Clarke sees cut in NAO review

By PAUL DURMAN AND ANNE ASHWORTH

KENNETH CLARKE, the former Chancellor, said yesterday he believed the National Audit Office's review of the public finances will show a cut in the Government's growth forecasts for the economy.

The Treasury is set to publish the NAO report on Thursday. It has been suggested that the report will reveal a public funding gap of billions of pounds, potentially threatening Labour's election pledges.

Mr Clarke said yesterday that the suggestion that the Government would claim to have found a black hole running into billions of pounds implied the Treasury was planning to cut the assumed growth rate from 2½ to 2¼ per cent.

The NAO was asked to examine the assumptions that underpin the Government's financial forecasting. Mr Clarke said the NAO, which usually assesses whether the Government has got value for money on spending projects,

had no track record or expertise in this area.

The market is now expecting that Labour will announce a 5 per cent reduction in the dividend tax credit in the Budget. Analysis carried out for *The Times* shows this would bring a loss of £74 each to the 19 million people saving in pension schemes.

Their total loss from this much rumoured measure would be some £1.4 billion. This is roughly equivalent to 1 per cent increase in income tax. Other groups such as personal equity plan (PEP) holders, higher rate taxpayers and charities would be £600 million worse off. The Chancellor would gain £2 billion.

Calculations by Chantrey Vellacott, the accountant, on the impact of a 5 per cent reduction in the rate of the dividend tax credit show PEP holders would be £33 worse off.

Commentary, page 29

Unit trusts look into new award scheme

By CAROLINE MERRELL

UNIT trust companies are looking into the introduction of a new compensation programme, which would be on top of the existing Investors Compensation Scheme, in the wake of the Peter Young affair at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell (DMG).

The scheme will aim to increase the maximum amount that can be paid out per claim.

Under the terms of the Investors Compensation Scheme, the level of payment is limited to £48,000. However, many unit trust investors may now have investments that far exceed this limit.

Under the new "mutual" compensation scheme, each unit trust company would pay a certain amount into a pool to cover the type of losses incurred by DMG last year. The scheme could also involve unit trust companies taking out insurance policies to cover losses.

DMG was forced to pay 200,000 investors a total of £220 million in compensation after the suspension of three European trusts managed by Mr Young.

The total bill for Deutsche Bank DMG's German owner, is believed to have reached £430 million. Other unit trust companies do not have such financially strong parent companies.

The impetus for the new move comes from the unit trust companies via the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds.



Wanless taking over

Railtrack on collision course with Ofrail

By CARL MORTSHED

RAILTRACK was on a collision course with its regulator last night that could ultimately lead to intervention by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Sir Robert Horton, Railtrack's chairman, yesterday gave a flat refusal to a request for amendments to the rail utility's licence aimed at increasing its accountability to John Swift, the rail

regulator. He said that proposals for a licence amendment would lead to more bureaucracy, second guessing of decisions and a loss of flexibility. Sir Robert was responding to a letter from Mr Swift, who two weeks ago criticised Railtrack for its low investment. Mr Swift asked it to agree to strengthen the obligations in its licence.

Mr Swift yesterday said he noted with regret that Railtrack had rejected

his proposals. He said: "I remain of the belief that it is appropriate to increase Railtrack's accountability in the way I am proposing and do not believe that it would lead to the detriments suggested by Railtrack."

There are only two ways to change Railtrack's licence: by consent between the company and the regulator or, if the company refuses, by Mr Swift referring the matter to the MMC to

determine whether the changes are in the public interest. Ofrail, the Office of the Rail Regulator, said last night that the MMC was the final option.

Mr Swift wants to explore the matter further with Railtrack. Sir Robert said he would work with the regulator to achieve greater transparency in the company's plans and outputs.

Tempus, page 30

SIR JOHN LESLIE.

1766-1832.

Scottish mathematician and physicist from Fife.

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Raise taxes not interest rates, says British Steel

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH STEEL yesterday called for higher taxes to be used to control the economy rather than interest rate rises that may strengthen sterling further. The call followed full-year results that showed £400 million of damage to profits from the pound and weak European steel prices.

Further damage is expected to show in the current half-year as the full effect of the rise in sterling feeds through. Sir Brian Moffat, chairman and chief executive, said: "I would prefer higher taxes to higher interest rates... there have got to be some fiscal measures brought to bear to balance the thing out."

The company has pressed its case in a submission to Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, who delivers the Budget next month. Although exchange rates and European steel prices are linked, as they are market-determined, it is thought that the pure effect of the UK's strong currency dealt a £100 million blow to the company.

British Steel is in the throes of a huge restructuring to counter the effects of the strong pound, which hits the company substantially because it is a heavy exporter. Last year it cut 1,500 jobs while this year the toll is likely to be more than 2,000. More than 10,000 are expected to go in a five-year programme.

Jobs and businesses will

also be on the line in the 2,000 or so companies that supply British Steel. The company is in talks with its suppliers to squeeze their prices by what is thought to be more than 10 per cent as it drives to cut its costs across the business. Many small companies that act as local suppliers to British Steel's four main plants are dependent on the company for their livelihood.

Sir Brian underlined British Steel's commitment to step up production overseas where costs are cheaper but he said the company had no intention of scaling down operations in the UK. He said he wanted to see international production deliver 25 per cent of sales within five years. At present operating and planned plants account for about 11 per cent of revenue.

In the year to March 31, British Steel's pre-tax profits more than halved to £451 million from £1.1 billion. Avesta, the Swedish stainless steel subsidiary, proved a large drain on profits incurring a loss of £7 million last year against a £228 million profit in the previous year after delayed commissioning and rationalisation costs. British Steel took on Avesta as a 51 per cent subsidiary in November 1995.

The dividend was held at 10p for the year with a final payment of 7p due August 11.

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Industrial beauty: Harry Platt, managing director of London Industrial, left, with Alan Porter, chairman, lifted pre-tax profit by 16 per cent to £4.8 million in the year to March 31. Earnings rose 16 per cent to 24.7p and the total dividend rises 15 per cent to 15p. The company's net asset value rose 21 per cent to £4.17 a share. The shares rose 7p to 339½p

Think-tank in jobs criticism

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

NEW jobs in Britain for the unemployed are bad jobs, according to an independent employment study today.

The report says Labour's welfare to work programme will have to improve on the poor performance of previous government schemes.

A new analysis today from the independent Employment Policy Institute, a jobs think-tank with links to Labour,

shows that, though the number of professional and managerial jobs is growing, the jobs being taken by unemployed people are predominantly low grade, low status, low paid and low security.

John Philpott, EPI director, says that Britain's structural problems of joblessness are deep-seated: "Shifting workless families and the hidden unemployed into jobs will cost

money, take time and require persistence, patience and political will."

The research was carried out for the EPI by Paul Gregg and Jonathan Wadsworth of the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics.

Employment Audit, Summer 1997. EPI, Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London SE1. By subscription.

Energy chief quits after row over role

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BOB HAWLEY, chief executive of British Energy, has quit in a surprise boardroom dispute just weeks before he would have been awarded generous share options.

Mr Hawley is leaving the nuclear generator, which has been in the private sector for less than a year, after the board dented his ambitions to be chairman. John Robb, the current chairman, is to be acting chief executive until a successor is found.

Mr Hawley is expected to take a payout of about £450,000 after resigning two years before the expiry of his contract. But he will get none of the share options that are to be allocated next month. After the scandals surrounding cheaply priced share options in other privatisations, the Government ruled that British Energy executive perks should not be applicable until a year after the company was floated last July.

Mr Hawley, who is said by industry insiders to be difficult to work with, is not expected to work after today although he officially departs at the end of the month. Discussions on his future role have been under way for some time but the board made clear he would not be considered for the chairman's post.

Mr Robb, 61, is expected to remain as chairman for 18 months to two years. The board is understood to have told Mr Hawley, 60, that it wanted someone younger as chairman to take the company forward.

British Energy said that Mr Hawley would be pursuing "other interests".

Abbey confirms Cater Allen talks

ABBEY NATIONAL confirmed yesterday that it is in talks to buy Cater Allen, the financial services group. Cater Allen's share price has risen sharply since it announced on June 5 that it was in talks with an anonymous potential bidder. Yesterday it closed at 547.5p, having fallen slightly from 550p. Abbey National fell from 895.5p to 868p amid a general fall in the banking sector.

Cater Allen's activities used to revolve around its role as a discount house acting as an intermediary for the Bank of England in the money markets. They now include banking, with profitable offshore operations in Jersey and the Isle of Man. It also owns an execution-only stockbroking service and Aiken Campbell, the Glasgow broker, as well as managing several funds analysts yesterday forecast a price of £200 million. Cater Allen has a market capitalisation of about £170 million. The deal would be part of a broad ongoing shift away from traditional savings and mortgages operations at Abbey National.

US telecoms takeover

MCLEODUSA has agreed to buy Consolidated Communications, a telecommunications holding company, in a deal valued at about \$420 million. McLeodUSA, based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, provides telecommunications services and competes with regional Baby Bell companies and GTE Corp. McLeodUSA Inc. would have about 200,000 local lines, 4,000 employees and 3,700 miles of fibre-optic lines in a 14-state region, and publish 12 million phone directories a year.

Upgrading by brewery

WOLVERHAMPTON & Dudley Breweries is "radically upgrading" its draught lager portfolio to provide consumers and trade customers with a wider choice of leading brands. The upgrade will cost £2.6 million over four years. The changes will significantly improve the company's competitive position in retail and wholesale markets. The range includes Foster's and Heineken cold filtered. The two brands will replace Harp, Wolverhampton's standard lager since the 1960s.

LSB edges ahead

LONDON SCOTTISH BANK raised pre-tax profits 0.1 per cent to £4.3 million in the six months to April 30. The half-year dividend rises 14.7 per cent to 0.975p out of earnings static at 2.6p. The board said the debt collection and reinsurance division's operating profits continue to grow. Consumer credit profits rose 41 per cent to £1.7 million and debt collection rose 32 per cent to £1.4 million. Reinsurance rose 27 per cent to £1.2 million.

New link for Ireland

THE Republic of Ireland's rail network will form the backbone of a second communications system, under a joint venture between CIE, the state-owned transport group, and Esat Telecom, the communications company. The agreement involves the laying of a fibre optic network under the existing rail system. The new network will be allowed to service only businesses until 2000 when the state-controlled Telecom Eireann is due to give up its monopoly on residential services.

London Bridge talks

SHARES in London Bridge Software rose 12p to 332½p after the group said it was in talks on a "significant" acquisition that was likely to be funded by a rights issue. The computer software and services group promised that a further announcement would be made by July 4. London Bridge gave an indication of the size of the deal by indicating that the acquisition would be classified as super class one. At last night's closing price London Bridge is worth £75 million.

PowerGen venture

POWERGEN furthered its international expansion yesterday by securing a long-term power deal in Hungary which will lead to the development of a £160 million power plant. A subsidiary of PowerGen in Budapest has struck an agreement with the Hungarian state electricity supply operation to supply power for 20 years. The new plant, which will be built next to a station already owned by PowerGen, will come on stream in the millennium.

Celtic hand-out fear

CELTIC ENERGY, the producer of anthracite coal, has warned of job losses because of subsidies given to German mining companies. Celtic is lobbying Europe and the Government over subsidies offered by the German Government. Keith McNair, chief executive, said: "We are facing unfair competition from Germany, where two leading anthracite producers have had... subsidies of over £100 million. They are able to sell their coal at well below cost prices."

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.28	Bank	2.12	Malta	0.683	Bank	0.695
Austria Sch	20.82	Belgium Fr	51.21	Netherlands Gld	3.381	Bank	3.382
Canada \$	2.375	Denmark Kr	11.31	New Zealand \$	2.52	Bank	2.53
Cyprus Cyp£	0.881	France F	6.55	Portugal Esc	207.00	Bank	207.00
Denmark Kr	11.31	Germany DM	2.36	S. Africa R	8.05	Bank	8.05
Finland Mk	8.95	Greece Dr	473	Spain Pta	166.50	Bank	166.50
France F	6.55	Hong Kong \$	13.48	Sweden Kr	13.48	Bank	13.48
Germany DM	2.36	Ireland £	1.27	Switzerland Fr	2.30	Bank	2.30
Greece Dr	473	Israel	1.27	Turkey Lira	247.504	Bank	247.504
Hong Kong \$	13.48	Italy Lira	2040	USA \$	1.735	Bank	1.735
Ireland £	1.27	Japan Yen	199.70				
Israel	1.27						
Italy Lira	2040						
Japan Yen	199.70						

Notes for small denomination bank notes supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Exclusive Sunday Times reader offer FREE SLAZENGER TENNIS BALLS



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The Sunday Times, with Slazenger, is giving away 15,000 three-ball tubes of exclusive Wimbledon Hi-Vis tennis balls. The tubes are worth £5.99 each.

Slazenger has been Wimbledon's sole supplier of tennis balls since 1902 and the Hi-Vis ball has been hand tested to the LTA's exacting standards for pressure, appearance and bounce. It contains high levels of fluorescent dye to give players such as Tim Henman, above, that split second longer to react and allows audiences a clearer view of the action.

If you collected the token which appeared with a voucher in the Style section of The Sunday Times yesterday, simply collect the second token from Style next Sunday and three differently numbered tokens from The Times, one of which must be from the Wimbledon supplement appearing on Monday June 23. Tokens will appear in The Times each day this week. Attach all five tokens to the voucher, and present it at a Sports Division store before July 5. You will receive a free tube of three Hi-Vis balls, subject to stock availability at the time of your visit. To find your local Sports Division store call 0800 146 542.



Peer wins control of Finnish sports group

By JON ASHWORTH

LORD MOYNE, better known as Jonathan Guinness, sometime writer and merchant banker, has clinched control of Amer, a Finnish sporting goods group, which sells Wilson golf equipment and tennis rackets.

The peer is paying £M301 million (£35 million) for a majority stake, and is likely to become chairman. Separately, he is paying SKr250m (£20 million) for a controlling interest in Trusor, a Swedish investment company with of-

fices in London. The peer, 67, has adopted a low corporate profile since 1988 when he resigned as a non-executive director of Guinness after 27 years. He was a director of Leopold Joseph, the merchant bank, from 1964 to 1991.

Educated at Eton and Oxford, he did a three-year stint with Reuters in the early 1950s. He once stood for Parliament when he suggested that razor blades should be placed in the cells of convicted murderers.

Confidence eases in commercial property

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GROWTH in Britain's commercial property market is slackening, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

Commercial property confidence remains positive, though it is easing back, according to the CBI's latest survey carried out with Grimley, the international property advisers.

A net balance of 1 per cent of 564 companies surveyed plan to increase their property holdings over the next six

months, the survey shows. This compares with a positive balance of 6 per cent in January. The largest increases in property are expected to be among smaller companies, while larger firms expect to reduce their holdings by the end of the year.

Sudhir Junankar, CBI associate director of economic analysis, said: "The slightly lower confidence in the commercial property market reflects the less buoyant overall optimism of companies."

CALPers tightens director test

By JASON NISSE

CALPers, the giant Californian state pension fund, is to bring in a new, stricter code of corporate governance to bolster its affirmative action campaign on leading companies.

The code is aimed at strengthening the role of non-executive directors by giving a tougher definition of when a director is considered independent. There will be ten pointers to when a director is independent and the fund, with \$113 billion under management, will vote against so-called independent directors who do not meet the test.

CALPers has recently attacked underperforming US companies such as Apple and Reebok. Kayla Gillen, CALPers' general counsel, thought the majority of the 300 companies that the group monitors closely do not meet its new performance criteria.

Sainsbury's to open all night

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

J SAINSBURY will introduce all-night shopping in 25 of its biggest supermarkets from the end of this month.

The stores, ten of which are in London with the rest in cities and large towns around the country, will stay open continuously from 8am on Friday to 10pm on Saturday, starting on June 27.

The move follows a lengthy trial in several of its stores around the country. Other supermarkets, including Asda, Sainsbury and Tesco, have also been experimenting with all-night shopping, which is widespread in the US.

Sainsbury's, which is chaired by David Sainsbury, said that over 50 per cent of the grocery shoppers it has interviewed in the past few months said they favoured 24-hour shopping, with over half of these preferring to shop late on Fridays.



Sainsbury's positive response

Kevin McCarten, marketing director, said: "Many of our customers vary their shopping patterns for a number of reasons, but our research shows that most late-night shoppers are single men and shift workers, who prefer to shop late at the end of the week."

Tobacco attacked in Canada

By JASON NISSE

A CANADIAN province has paved the way for litigation against tobacco companies to recoup medical costs, the first time that this action has been taken outside the US.

In the US, leading cigarette makers — including BAT Industries — are in talks with the Government about a \$30 billion deal to settle tobacco litigation pending in 37 states.

Yesterday, British Columbia said it will bring in a law to allow similar legal actions in the Canadian province. However its government said that it would first ask tobacco companies to offer a voluntary payment and to admit that cigarettes were addictive and caused cancer, lung disease and heart disease.

The province estimates that it spends C\$500 million (£130 million) a year on treating smoking-related illnesses.

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NatWest's credit overdrawn



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

NatWest is having a bad run. Down £90 million on dodgy derivatives trading, spurned by Abbey National and the current whipping boy of the stock market, the bank has had a bruising time. But with a determination to think positive, Derek Wanless, chief executive, yesterday trumpeted the creation of a new Investment Banking Group for Europe.

Sadly, this development was rapidly eclipsed by the more headline-grabbing news of the departure of Martin Owen. A few lessons from the Mandelson school of news management might prove beneficial at Ladbroke.

The European move shows determination to find a *raison d'être* for the business that Lord Alexander of Weddell and his cheque book have been assembling. The idea is to make NatWest a force in corporate finance, with George Magan and Alton Irby as joint chief executives. NatWest markets has the expensive corporate finance fire power, and the bank has the corporate clients, the sort of synergy that M&A brokers earn fat fees to point out. But it has not yet produced the deal flow.

If the new structure fails to drum up business, there could soon be a more dramatic restructuring of NatWest than Mr Owen's departure heralds. When £90 million goes missing, someone has to be held responsible. In NatWest's case, it

had to be Mr Owen. The chief executive of NatWest Markets had already gallantly volunteered to hand back £200,000 of his £500,000 bonus but, while he may have felt that he was getting 60 per cent of his job right, the other 40 per cent mattered too.

Mr Owen's management looks to have been lax. If he did not know what was going on in the gambling den of the dealing room, he should have done, or at least had systems in place which would have picked up the problem sooner: the intimations from NatWest are that the exciting approach to derivatives trading was not a momentary aberration.

Now there will be platitudes about tightening up on compliance and risk, but all will be meaningless unless NatWest can find the right person to replace Mr Owen, and quickly. One can hardly believe that Derek Wanless was under-employed until yesterday, so his taking on direct responsibility for NatWest markets can only be for a brief period. What is now required, to give the right message both internally and externally, is someone who is tough on compliance, tough on the need for compliance.

There can be few people with the right experience who cur-

rently find themselves at a loose end, but NatWest has the headhunters on their trail.

The problems of policing trade in the City cannot be over-estimated and even the most sophisticated systems cannot contend with every ruse that a rogue trader may employ. But banks are beginning to realise that they need to invest more in the systems and the people to do the job. Mr Owen's successor will not come cheap.

Political look at a black hole

Prepare to be appalled. A black hole totalling billions of pounds has suddenly appeared in the public finances — or so say sources who have a good record of being close to the Labour spin doctors. The National Audit Office has looked at the state of the nation's books, and did not like what it read

there. For confirmation of this analysis, we have only to wait until publication of the NAO report on Thursday, although it already looks tediously predictable. When Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, was forced on to the back foot last week, he immediately sought to use the worse-than-expected financial "crisis" he had found in the NHS as the justification for considering a new range of charges. Gordon Brown may be about to offer us more of the same.

Far from marking a new openness in public finance, the whole NAO exercise looks depressingly political. Within its narrow terms of reference, the most important topic considered by the NAO was the Government's assumption about the trend for economic growth. Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, says this is the only area that can throw up the missing "billions" that might reconcile the public to the need

for tax rises. Mr Clarke's last set of Budget arithmetic benefited from his revision of the long-term trend from 2½ to 2½ per cent.

Whether or not this is correct is frankly unknowable. Economists can debate the point endlessly, but it will eventually come down to a matter of opinion, a political judgment. The irony is, if Mr Brown and his team have persuaded the NAO that 2½ per cent is the more appropriate assumption, such a move would contradict the professed benefits of Labour's economic management.

Similarly, it would be very odd for Labour to overturn Mr Clarke's assumption that unemployment will fall. The previous assumption of level unemployment was simply a political convenience that allowed past administrations to avoid owning up to feared reality of rising numbers of jobless.

More suspect than the growth

assumptions were Mr Clarke's forecasts of the growth in government spending. The last Red Book projected history-beating growth of substantially less than 1 per cent over each of the next three years. With the new Government facing so many demands from its supporters, this will prove Labour's most important test.

Folly to axe dividend relief

There is no such thing as a cost-free tax. Gordon Brown will soon discover that if the Treasury manages to persuade him to slash tax relief on dividends for pension funds as it is trailing, on the politically correct but mistaken ground that it would encourage a switch from dividends to investment.

There is no cash constraint on most quoted companies investing more. But the cost of pensions is a major constraint on employment. It would jump dramatically if returns to company contributions are cut.

For savers in money purchase schemes, a cut in dividend returns will simply cut future pensions, because it will cut

share prices. That is because most final salary schemes are valued actuarially on the present value of future dividends, so that axing relief makes both shares and funds worth less.

That is inconvenient for Chancellor and might be challenged by companies. But trustees, who have been both empowered and burdened by the Pensions Act 1995, would surely not go along.

Many funds will therefore lose surpluses, forcing companies to resume or raise contributions, thereby cutting the net Revenue gain. In many more, funds will become technically insolvent under the Act's new tests. Companies would have to inject capital, attracting relief that might well eliminate most extra tax revenue for years.

That should dissuade the Chancellor. But it may take howls from charities, the other main losers, to put him right.

Oh-ah Pierson

JEAN PIERSON, managing director of Airbus, is giving every indication of being the aerospace industry's answer to Eric Cantona. At the Paris air show he has been throwing round the insults, accusing directors of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas of criminal conspiracy. He went on to attack the exclusivity deals that are crucial to an industry where every development requires huge investment. When Airbus needs friends, M Pierson is creating enemies.

Warning on sterling hits Psion launch

By ADAM JONES

SHARES in Psion, the handheld computer maker, dropped by almost a fifth yesterday after a negative trading statement clouded the launch of its most sophisticated product so far.

Psion gave warning that performance is being hit by the strength of sterling, and a drop in orders for its established products in anticipation of the state-of-the-art series 5 computer's introduction.

David Potter, Psion founder and chairman, said sales of the series 3 range had slowed in May and June, and that sales of its Siena pocket computer were disappointing. "The performance of the group will be affected until the series 5 becomes established."

Psion has more than half of its sales overseas by turnover, leaving it vulnerable to the strong pound. The shares started the day at 505p but closed at 407½p. One analyst dropped profit forecasts from £22 million to £16.5 million before tax. Psion made £16 million pre-tax profits last year.

The series 5 personal organiser offers Internet access, an e-mail facility, compatibility with Windows 95, a dictaphone, an improved keyboard and a touch-sensitive screen. In the United Kingdom, it will sell for £440 to £500. The company hopes to be selling 40,000 units a month by October.

The series 5 and its new 32-bit operating system cost more than £25 million to develop. The operating system has already been licensed to an unnamed electronics manufacturer, not thought to be a direct competitor in the handheld computing market, with other deals in the pipeline. Licensing income is expected to make a material impact on profits in 1998-99. The Series 5 is expected to contribute 40-50 per cent of annual turnover by next year.

The new range faces competition from rivals using Microsoft's new operating system for handheld computers, Windows CE.

Tempus, page 30

Bid report boosts T&N share price

By PAUL DURMAN

SHARES in T&N, the motor component maker, jumped by 15 per cent yesterday on suggestions that it will soon face a £1 billion takeover bid.

Nearly 12.7 million shares were traded as speculators reacted to a weekend report that Dana Corporation, a big US parts manufacturer, is preparing a bid with Federal Mogul, a smaller competitor. T&N shares touched a peak of 166p, before easing to 159p, 2½p up on the day.

T&N's market value has, for years, been depressed by the huge cost of settling asbestos liabilities, capped last year by insurance.

Robert Speed, a Henderson Crosthwaite analyst, said a bid would have to be £1 or so over the current share price. The stock had been "mispriced".

Reshuffle at Tring is voted down

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SHAREHOLDERS in Tring International yesterday voted down an attempt to unseat the budget music company's board.

Mark Frey, a co-founder of the business and school friend of Philip Robinson, the chief executive, requested yesterday's extraordinary meeting after teaming up with Jay Chernow, a large shareholder. Between them they own about 20 per cent of the company.

However, the shareholders voted almost two to one against putting Mr Frey on the board and four to one against removing Mr Robinson. Mr Frey, a former joint chief executive, resigned from the company in 1995 after disagreeing with his old school friend about strategy.

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STOCK MARKET

CLARE STEWART

Worries on windfall tax overshadow NU debut

PRE-BUDGET blues set in yesterday, ending the recent strong run seen by the stock market. And windfall tax worries rather than windfall gains cheer contributed to the more cautious tone, overshadowing the debut of Norwich Union.

Speculation that Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, is set to abolish the 20 per cent tax credit on dividends in his Budget on July 2 left blue-chip stocks nursing falls across the board as profit-takers moved in and nearly £8 billion was wiped off share values.

The FTSE 100 index sank more than 47 points at its worst, but recovered some ground after Wall Street opened in quieter mood. By the close the FTSE stood at 4745.1, down 38 points.

Concern over the impact of a windfall tax hit Railtrack. It fell 30½p to 624½p on fears that it might be one of the hardest hit among the privatised groups when details of the tax are announced. Severn Trent, the water group, was also squeezed as its shares fell 2½p to 740p.

Property groups were dull on worries that stamp duty might be increased in the Budget. British Land ended 8½p lower at 574½p, while Hammerson closed 9½p down at 486p.

Norwich Union made its debut at 350p, in line with broad expectations. The shares climbed to a trading high of 357½p before sliding back to close at 324½p, a premium of 34½p to the 290p opening price.

About 150 million shares changed hands, boosting the market's overall trading volumes. Other insurers were left on the shelf in the scramble for Norwich Union, with the Prudential down 2½p to 615p.

NatWest Bank had a switchback ride, having been spurred to a high of 819½p, up 23p in morning trading, as rumours of a shake-up in its investment arm and takeover talk resurfaced. Later in the day came the news of Martin Owen, chief executive of NatWest Markets, and a surprise profits warning. NWM profits are expected to be significantly lower than last year, at about £770 million.

NatWest Bank shares retreated as brokers marked down forecasts. They closed 4½p lower at 755p. Other banks losing ground included Barclays, down 26½p to 1212½p, and Lloyds TSB, off

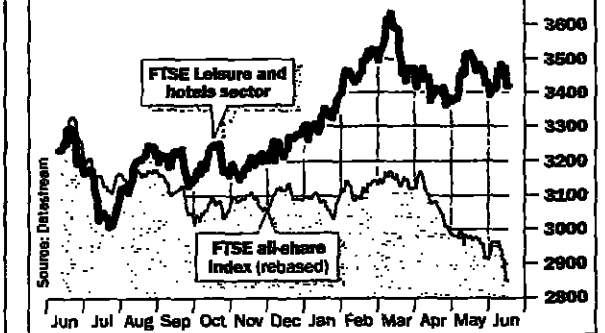


Norwich Union executives including Allan Bridgewater, chief executive, right, monitor early morning trading in their newly issued shares on the floor of Kleinwort Benson

15p to 626½p. Abbey National ended 27½p lower at 868p after confirming it was in talks with Cater Allen Holdings, the merchant bank, which ended at 547½p, down 2½p.

British Steel ended 4½p lower at 158½p after announcing a fall in pre-tax profits to £451 million, reflecting the impact of sterling's strength.

Looking for inspiration



Rank, the holidays and entertainment group, braved the bumpy market conditions to claw back some of the ground lost last week. Shares put on 10p in early dealings before easing to end at 386p, up 1p.

Rank is not alone among leisure businesses to be possible bid moves. First Leisure was also in demand before results this month, and ended at 334p, up 8p, while Caspian edged up 1½p to 26½p. Among hotels, Hannover International found some buyers after last week's profits warning, closing at 125p, up 3½p.

buyers back into the market, on hopes that the management can deliver. Ladbrokes held firm at 249p, while Granada, another broker favourite, ended 19p lower at 872½p.

Among smaller leisure stocks, Inspirations put on 4p to 72½p, while awaiting possible bid moves. First Leisure was also in demand before results this month, and ended at 334p, up 8p, while Caspian edged up 1½p to 26½p. Among hotels, Hannover International found some buyers after last week's profits warning, closing at 125p, up 3½p.

BG edged up 2p to 217½p ahead of clarification of the long-running saga over Transco and its pricing. A report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission is due this week.

British Energy fell 1½p to 145½p. The group, which went ex-dividend yesterday, also announced the departure of

Robert Hawley as chief executive. Among the power groups, Energy Group, the recipient of a £3.6 billion bid from PacificCorp of America, saw its shares ease 5p to 641p.

Rolls-Royce slipped 1p to 254½p, in spite of the promise of new orders from the Paris Air Show. Vickers rose 2p to 218p after a broker's note.

Second-liners proved more buoyant in the unsettled conditions. T&N, the engineering and auto components group, rose to 159p. A more positive broker's note and speculation that a £1 billion bid from the US was in the offing gave the former asbestos producer a boost. The company's price has been on the slide since peaking at 190p last year and dealers say that it looks exposed to a takeover approach.

WS Atkins was among stocks recovering ground after recent weakness, moving up 2p to 278½p, while BTR, which recently hit a low of 180p, added 2½p to 191½p. Retailers found support, with MFI, the furniture group, moving up 3p to 135p, on talk of windfall-happy consumers splashing out.

Burton, which saw heavy trading last week, rose 3p to 131½p, while Country Casuals rose 1p to 130½p on renewed bid speculation. Alexon, the latest name in the frame, was 2p lower at 200p. Marks & Spencer put on ½p to 535p.

Dealings in the shares today included the exercise of an option by Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman. He sold 87,000 shares at 530p, netting a profit of £242,000.

Pison, the computer group, fell to 407½p, from 505p. The launch of the Series 5, a new product, came with a warning that sales growth had slowed, prompting analysts to cut forecasts.

GILT-EDGED: The gilts market was quiet, but the index-linked sector was more buoyant on the expectation that more investors would switch out of equities if the dividend tax credit were abolished. In futures, the September series of the long gilt ended up ½p at £114.132 on volume of 33,000. Treasury 8 per cent 2000 edged up ½p to £103.132, while in longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2010 moved up ½p to £109.932.

NEW YORK: The Dow Jones industrial average fell slightly as investors took profits. At midday, the index was down 2.26 points at 7,843.30.

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MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 7843.30 (+2.26)
S&P Composite 894.27 (+1.03)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 20061.07 (+152.72)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 14394.60 (+282.03)

Amsterdam:
BOE Index 349.99 (+0.93)

Sydney:
ASX 3649.30 (+14.03)

Frankfurt:
DAX 3765.11 (+26.67)

Singapore:
Straits 1091.08 (+0.98)

Brussels:
General 13385.89 (+60.71)

Paris:
CAC-40 2795.87 (+12.65)

Zurich:
SIX Gen 1134.90 (+1.29)

London:
FTSE 100 4745.10 (-38.10)

FTSE 250 1000.00 (-10.00)

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TEMPUS

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 7843.30 (+2.26)
S&P Composite 894.27 (+1.03)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 20061.07 (+152.72)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 14394.60 (+282.03)

Amsterdam:
BOE Index 349.99 (+0.93)

Sydney:
ASX 3649.30 (+14.03)

Frankfurt:
DAX 3765.11 (+26.67)

Singapore:
Straits 1091.08 (+0.98)

Brussels:
General 13385.89 (+60.71)

Paris:
CAC-40 2795.87 (+12.65)

Zurich:
SIX Gen 1134.90 (+1.29)

London:
FTSE 100 4745.10 (-38.10)

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Last chance for NatWest's global dream

Robert Miller looks at the woes afflicting the clearer's investment banking arm — and its fightback strategy

At two o'clock yesterday, NatWest's head office in the City announced that Martin Owen, the beleaguered head of NatWest Markets, the clearer's investment banking arm, had resigned.

Ever since Mr Owen had to admit, in March, that a £90 million black hole had been discovered in its interest rate options book, there had been speculation about what the bank could do to turn around the fortunes of NatWest Markets, whose profits will show a sharp fall this year from the £462 million it made in 1996.

So did Derek Wanless, NatWest chief executive, and Lord Alexander of Weedon, NatWest chairman, lose patience with Mr Owen? Or does yesterday's departure signal the end of NatWest's ambitions to build a genuinely global investment bank to rival top players such as Merrill Lynch, which encompasses the old Smith New Court, and Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, SBC Warburg, UBS and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell? Certain of these firms have had their own well-publicised problems.

Even closer to home, BZW, the

investment banking arm of Barclays, saw profits plunge last year by £85 million to £204 million. This fall was almost entirely due to the recruitment of expensive senior staff, including that of Bill Harrison, BZW's chief executive from Robert Fleming, and the inevitable redundancies that followed. The similarity between BZW and NatWest Markets is that both have only in recent years emerged in their current shapes and that both have failed to give shareholders a reasonable return on capital injected into them by their parent banks. The difference is that Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank, has already acted to turn BZW into a genuinely global investment bank. It is a high-risk strategy and one that is not guaranteed to succeed. However, Mr Taylor has at least now established a clear vision of where he would like BZW to be. NatWest has

yet to reach this clarity in corporate thinking.

The Owen resignation at NatWest, already embarrassed at having to announce the £90 million black hole only days after unveiling annual profits of £1.1 billion, had been under discussion for some time. Initially, Mr Owen enjoyed strong backing from Mr Wanless. It appeared that NatWest Markets had been the victim of poor management and risk supervision in the interest-rate options division, a relatively small part of the business. As a clear sign that he was prepared to accept responsibility, in that he headed the firm, Mr Owen agreed to hand back £200,000 of a £500,000 annual bonus. This gesture, however, was criticised by many, and some not far from the Bank of England, as being too little too late.

Results of the NatWest Markets inquiry into the derivatives losses will

be published in part by the end of this month, and will be passed in their entirety to the Bank of England and the Securities and Futures Authority. As the inquiry continued, it became clear that a lack of risk controls and proper management was not limited to derivatives activities. As a result, a review of the whole of NatWest Markets was launched. This is expected to discard certain geographical parts of the investment banking empire, and business with low profit margins, such as "big-ticket lending" to corporations, and to introduce far tighter risk and credit controls.

NatWest has taken private soundings around the City as to how NatWest Markets was viewed. The answer appears to have been that the first step to restore credibility was that Mr Owen had to go. His personal integrity has never been in doubt, but, in the all-important terms

of market and business perception, his position had become untenable.

The next step, and this is likely to emerge from the business strategy review, is to define more clearly the roles of the very diverse businesses acquired by NatWest Markets. These include Gleacher, the US mergers and acquisitions firm, bought in October 1995 for \$135 million, Greenwich Capital, another US company, bought last year for \$590 million, and JO Hambro Magan, the UK corporate finance specialist. The latter acquisition may eventually cost up to £150 million after 120 staff of the newly merged entity were locked in with reported £1 million "golden handcuffs". NatWest also acquired Cartmore, the highly rated fund manager, last year for £472 million.

Mr Wanless last night insisted that NatWest is as committed to its investment banking arm as it ever was. He has assumed control for now, a move that will give some comfort to the market and shareholders. Nevertheless, this is truly the last chance for NatWest Markets and the global ambitions of its parent.

Let mutuality be the power behind the tap and the Tube

Sometimes relief comes from an unexpected source. Most people think government borrowing is too high, but the PSBR could be cut — by mutuality.

It seems paradoxical in the financial sector. Remaining building societies can legitimately claim to offer finer terms without shareholders to worry about, but that will not help them if members can cash in reserves built by present and past members.

There is, however, another sector of the economy waiting to be opened up to mutuality — to the benefit of consumers and the public purse. Indeed, there is a potential bonanza for the Treasury nearly as good, in its way, as privatisation was.

The idea is to mutualise monopoly public services that carry a lot of debt. The obvious place to start is the Scottish water companies.

These remain in public ownership, and Labour's manifesto promise to keep them under "democratic control" rules out privatisation. Meanwhile, the companies, hamstrung by public borrowing restrictions, are desperately short of capital for infrastructure. They also fear political interference with pricing. The only solution on offer is the dread PFI or private finance initiative. They have to contract out parts of the business to attract private capital.

Unfortunately, it makes engineering and commercial sense to keep a water operation vertically integrated. No English water company, so far as I know, has contracted out big chunks of the business, though they would presumably have done so if it made sense. Piecemeal, unregulated privatisation, based on expensive capital, is what PFI offers.

There is a better way. Anyone receiving a water bill becomes a member, with a vote for the board. The board can appoint management and incentivise it to hit consumer-oriented targets. They could even franchise management to another water company if that gave customers the best deal. In other words, make the companies mutuals. That solves all problems. Everyone uses water, so the companies remain subject to democratic control; they are outside the PSBR and can borrow what they need to invest. If it makes sense to contract out operations, they can still do

it, but they are not forced to do so by capital constraints.

And the Treasury? The Scottish companies have debts of more than £1 billion on the State's books. Those are given away with the assets. That would not leave the companies overlevered. They would repay the Treasury. On the conventions governing British public finance, that would work like a privatisation — cash coming in is treated as revenue. Hey presto, £1 billion off the PSBR.

Where else would this work? What about London Underground? When you buy a ticket, pay a pound extra to be a member. Then you get a vote. The elected board appoints management to run the company in the customers' interest. At last we may get enough investment. Again, the Treasury sheds some debt.

The quest for profit makes companies efficient and is best for customers too — if there is competition. If not, that quest can be at customers' expense, in spite of a regulator. If the product market is a monopoly but the capital market is competitive, the customer can be exploited, but the investor cannot be dithered — or not more than once — because all companies must pay market rates on their capital. Those market structures mean you should vest control with the customer, not the investor. Mutualisation is then fairer and more efficient. It is also likely to be better than state control, which too often leads to political games played even with private regulated industries.

Will customers keep an eye on the company, or be apathetic, letting it become inefficient? There are always risks of sleepiness in a monopoly, however governed, but the difference from a building society is clear. If you don't like one society, you don't complain at the AGM. You just move society. The fact that Scots water users are stuck with the company will make the vote valuable. In particular, other firms with commercial exposure to the water company can ensure their views are taken into account. In the US, electricity mutuals exist — and are as efficient as PLCs.

GERALD HOLTHAM
Director, Institute for Public Policy Research

Windfalls drive billion-pound demand for package holidays

Tour operators benefit as 'feel-good' factor grows, Marianne Curphey says

Tour operators are preparing for their busiest summer for five years. Britons are expected to spend between £1 billion and £3 billion of the free shares windfalls from building society conversions on package holidays.

Demand for holidays has been fuelled by increasing consumer confidence, better employment figures, a strong economy and the windfall bonuses. Not only are tour operators selling more holidays, they are achieving sales closer to brochure prices, which means that margins have improved.

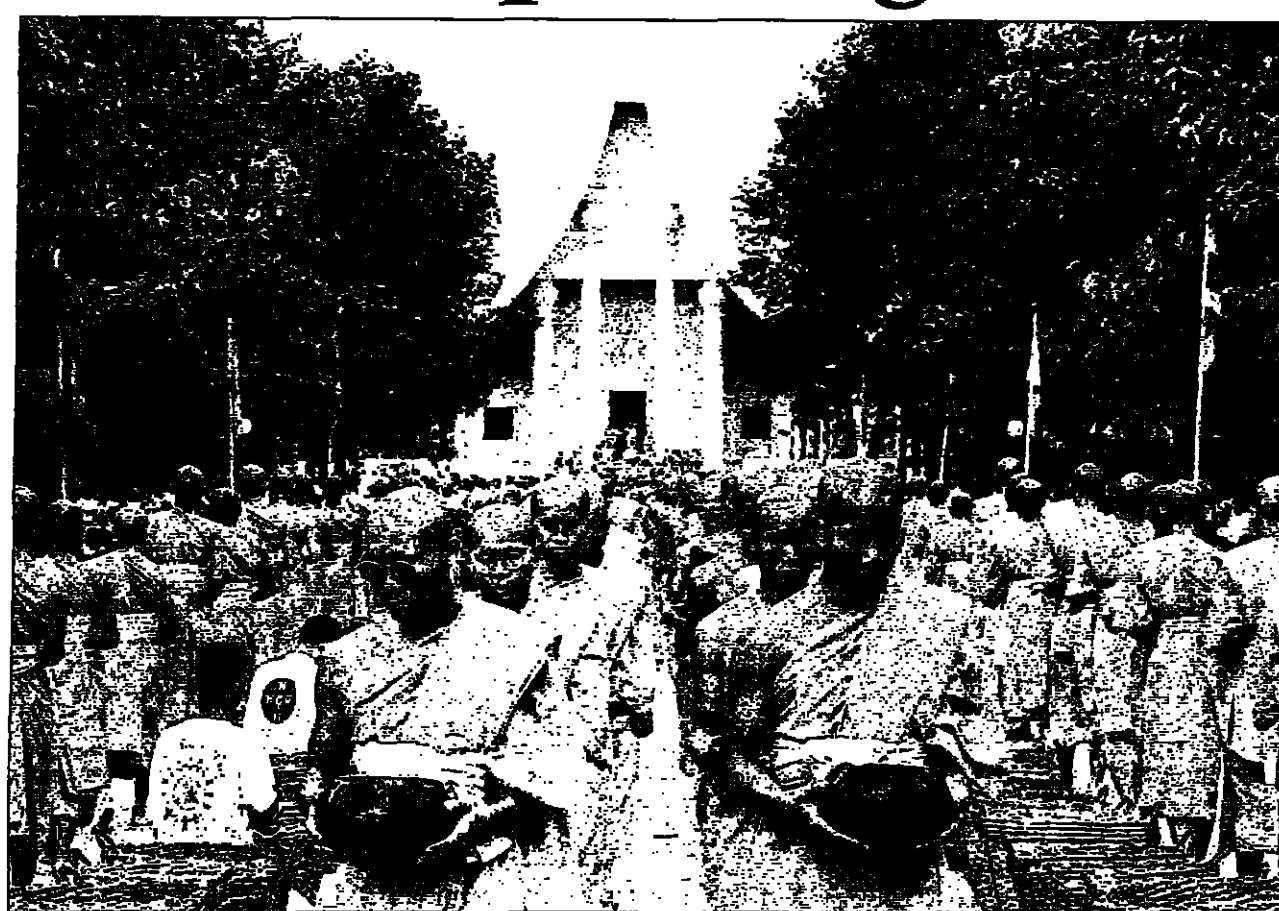
Thomson Holidays, the market leader, says that bookings are up 4 per cent on last year and are expected to rise a further 10 per cent next year as the conversions of Woolwich and Northern Rock are completed this summer.

Russell Amerasekera, communications director of Thomson, said: "We are expecting a total of 8.8 million people to take a holiday this year, with many of them upgrading from the usual two weeks in Spain to a trip of a lifetime for the family in Florida. We are seeing couples splashing out on Caribbean cruises and trips to the Far East."

Research by independent analysts has suggested that 1.5 million people will be spending at least £1,000 of their windfall on a foreign holiday. Many of these will be paying the full price to secure the resort and hotel of their choice, rather than waiting for end-of-season discounts.

Tour operators are also selling more packages to exotic destinations and all-inclusive hotels — a sector usually reserved for customers buying the top range of breaks.

Among those fuelling the



Buddhist monks taking part in an alms ceremony in Thailand, a popular holiday destination for windfall-spenders

boom are customers who are up to £10,000 richer following the flotation of the Halifax and Alliance & Leicester building societies. Tours to Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore are among the most popular destinations.

The implications of the "feel-good" factor driving consumer spending and, incidentally, the property market, has not been lost on the City. Shares in Airtours, one of the biggest players in the industry, have risen more than £2 in a month and closed just below their 12-month high of £11.80 yesterday.

First Choice, the third-largest operator, has seen its shares double in 12 months, rising from a low of 51½p last July to close at 104p yesterday.

Airtours' rise has been extraordinary. It has been one of the strongest shares in the FTSE 100 index. It is 29 per cent owned by Carnival Corporation, the biggest cruise operator in the world. Carnival bought 20 million shares

in Airtours at 450p, and 20 million at 500p last summer, and is expected to make a full bid for the UK operator in a few years. In the interim, Airtours' success in the domestic and Scandinavian markets has made it a darling of the Square Mile.

David Crossland, chairman of Airtours, was bullish last month when he presented the company's interim. The City is waiting for confirmation of the good news when First Choice Holidays, under Peter Long, its new chief executive, reports its six-month figures on Thursday of next week.

BZW has upgraded its full-year pre-tax profit estimate for Airtours from £105 million to £115 million and from £120 million to £130 million for the full year in 1998.

Merrill Lynch has also upgraded its full-year estimate for Airtours from £110 million to £120 million this year, and from £122 million to £148 million next year. This compares with the 12-month result

for Airtours in 1996 of £86.6 million.

For First Choice's interim next week, Merrill Lynch has pencilled in a £23.5 million loss, broadly comparable with the same period last year. Holiday companies traditionally make a loss or a very small profit in the first six months of the year since 70 per cent of their profit is made in the peak months of July and August. Both Airtours and First Choice have been trying to balance this by building up their winter and overseas programmes.

For the full year, Merrill Lynch is estimating a £23.5 million profit for First Choice compared with a £9.3 million profit last year, and £30 million in 1998.

In order to get the maximum benefit from the optimism that is currently in the market, the holiday companies launched their brochures for next summer three

months earlier than usual. Mr Amerasekera said: "Our booking patterns have shown that there are large numbers of people willing to commit themselves to next year's holiday before they have taken this year's. Our bookings for this summer are 12 per cent up and for summer 1998 the booking levels are healthy."

Wayne Sanderson, leisure analyst with Merrill Lynch, believes that despite "patchy" sales for June, bookings for July and August are likely to be strong. He also predicts that the current strength of sterling will give the holiday companies an extra boost next year. "At present the pound is strong and that is good for consumers who feel happier about going abroad, but it is of no benefit for the tour operators who negotiated hotel bed rates way back last June when sterling was weaker," Mr Sanderson said.

This year, though, the pound has risen 19 per cent against the Spanish peseta,

which means that when the companies are organising beds for summer 1998 they can do so very cheaply. Although brochure prices for 1998 have gone down, the margins that tour operators expect to achieve are sharply up.

Mr Amerasekera said: "Normally in an election year we would expect some consumer uncertainty. This has not been the case so far. There is a lot of consumer confidence out there and the tour operating industry is one of the beneficiaries."

The worry for investors when sales are going so well is that holiday companies will be tempted to lay on extra capacity. If they overestimate the demand they find themselves having to discount deeply late in the season.

However, Mr Amerasekera believes that the travel companies should be able to restrain themselves from piling on capacity because they have become accustomed to enjoying healthy margins from peak-season sales.

The buoyancy of holiday stocks has also led some analysts to look again at Thomson, the UK market leader. Thomson Corporation, the UK company's parent, has made clear that it intends to have off the holiday division in the future, but has given no indication of the timescale.

Based on last year's pre-tax profits of £81 million, and expected profits this year of £100 million, analysts put the prospective sale price of Thomson Holidays at between £800 million to £1 billion.

In the company's favour is its strong position as market leader in the UK, and its cash-generative business with higher margins than some of its rivals.

One analyst said: "The holiday industry is so cyclical that although times are good now for tour operators, there will be price wars and poor margins in the future. For this reason, Thomson Corporation will have two or three opportunities to float its holiday business in the next decade. Now seems a good time, with the UK market buoyant and holiday company profits expected to rise. If a float was announced tomorrow, I would not be at all surprised."

New Balls

DOGGING Gordon Brown's footsteps, as ever, in Amsterdam yesterday at the EU summit was his economic special adviser at the Treasury, Ed Balls, the single most important influence on the Chancellor. But there are more Balls yet to be served. He was an economic leader-writer on the *Financial Times* before heading off into the real world and helping to run the country. Now his younger brother, Andrew, is heading down the same route. FT insiders claim the parallels are

spooky. Both Oxford and Harvard-educated, both with good connections with the new economics establishment. And not only is Andrew doing the same job as Ed was, he is even sitting at his brother's old desk.

Andrew's posting is temporary, while Ed's successor at the FT, Stephanie Flanders, works for the Clinton Administration. But the FT is looking for a full-timer to replace her — and they might not look much further than one A. Balls. So once Ed goes off to pick up a parliamentary seat, as is widely expected, before an eventual Cabinet seat, brother Andrew can slip effortlessly over to the Treasury. And no one can ever accuse new Labour of lacking Balls.

● **OVERHEARD** at Nobu, the achingly fashionable nouvelle Japanese restaurant attached to the Metropolitan Hotel on Park Lane. Lady diner: "Could I have a spoon for my soup, please?" Goatee-bearded, Armani-clad waiter: "If you're lucky."

Joli good

EASY come, easy go. NatWest Group is selling two pictures at Sotheby's next month that should just about cover Martin Owen's compensation cheque. Hitherto hidden away in the bank's executive dining room, they



are some spectacular views of the River Thames by the 18th century Italian artist Antonio Joli — no, I hadn't heard of him either. And they are worth, between them, about £1.5 million. The money will actually go to create a capital fund to pay for the purchase of more modern works for NatWest's Louthbury Gallery in the City, a former local branch that the other day won this year's City Heritage Award. The pictures, described as "probably Joli's most ambitious", are one of the bank's more successful investments — in 1967 they cost about £20,000 between them.

Master class

THOSE of us who suspect that it was actually a pair of management con-

sultants who kitted out the emperor with his new wardrobe should get hold of a copy of the brochure for the Ashridge Masters Degree course in Organization (sic) Consulting. £15,000 a time, plus VAT, two years part-time. During which students will attend workshops to review their current consulting practice in order to "clarify the underlying metaphors, values and epistemology of their work and to share this with other participants". They also get to "practise various inquiry methodologies, examine the congruency of their espoused and enacted values and beliefs, and enhance" — oh, I can't bear any more, but I suppose they edit the course with the ability to spout such corporate gibberish to unsuspecting clients. And earn a hundred times the salary of the average nurse.

Sound move

THE rumour so often denied by Sir Tim Bell is that Chime Communications, his public relations company, is eager to buy M&C Saatchi, controlled by his old friend Maurice Saatchi, now Lord Saatchi, and brother Charles. This is news to Lord Saatchi too. Yesterday the boot was on the other foot. Megalomania, the special effects company that duplicated Eddie Murphy in six different guises in *The Nutty Professor*. Sir Tim just happened to be one of Computer Film's main investors. Can Chime be next on the list?

Needle point

TO THE Embroiders Guild exhibition at the Barbican, *The Art of the Stitch*, sponsored, appropriately enough, by Coats Viyella. Not exactly what you might expect — "quite avant-garde stuff," muses one *aficionado*. But who was the special guest invited last night? Can it really be Norman Willis, former general secretary at the TUC, trade union bruiser, amateur poet and, it seems, a mad keen embroiderer in his spare time? Coming next: Mike Tyson takes up origami.

MARTIN WALLER



Norman Willis was invited to attend an embroidery exhibition

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SORRY"?

plaintiff n. 1 common domestic argument (it's your turn to wash up; what time do you call this?) 2 a person who brings a case against another in court.

tort n. 1 an upmarket pastry case containing lemon, jam etc. (attrib) BBC English 2 a civil wrong other than under contract or equity.

sue n. & v. 1 that Lawley presenter on television 2 term for legal proceedings against a person (usu. foll. by *panis off*).

dispute v. 1 a matter for litigation 2 no it's not 3 oh yes it is 4 I'll see you in court.

lawsuit n. 1 usu. of pinstripe variety 2 corporate nightmare which requires the best possible defence.

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"There's no such thing as building society"

Losses up fourfold at Full Circle

By Sarah Cunningham

FULL CIRCLE Industries, the bathrooms and kitchens company set up by Bill Rooney and Alan Bell, former heads of Spring Ram, reported quadrupled losses yesterday.

In the year to March 30, the pre-tax loss was £2.53 million, compared with £645,000 a year earlier. Loss per share grew from 0.82p to 2.44p and the company went from net cash of £1.45 million in March last year to an overdraft of £1.62 million.

Samson Stairs lost its main customer during the second half and is now up for sale. Mr Bell, who with Mr Rooney and other directors owns 53 per cent of the company, said that he was confident a buyer would be found. A provision of £304,000 has been taken to cover any deficit arising from the disposal.

Wren Kitchens set up just over a year ago, suffered a dramatic sales dip in December and January. Most of the operating losses in the first half and all those in the second half were because of start-up costs at Wren, but Mr Bell said the division should make a profit this year.

Despite the profits setback, the company is still keen to make acquisitions. The dividend is unchanged at 0.1p.



Profits bloom: Bill Ainscough, managing director, left, Gavin Reed, chairman, and Stephen Owen, right, finance director, reported pre-tax profits at Wainhomes up from £2.1 million to £6.7 million in the year to April 4 on sales up from £96 million to £106 million. Earnings per share rose from 4.5p to 7.1p and total dividend from 4.5p to 4.75p.

R-R growth fuelled by £500m order for engines

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN PARIS

ROLLS-ROYCE, the engineering group, yesterday won three orders for aircraft engines worth £500 million.

Colin Green, managing director of the aerospace division, said at the Paris Air Show: "We expect 50 per cent more deliveries in 1997 than in 1996. After that growth will continue, although not at such an explosive rate."

The strong 1997 growth is primarily because of sales of the Trent 800, which airlines around the world have chosen

for their Boeing 777 aircraft. Yesterday's new orders are from British Airways, South African Airways and Iceland Air.

Rolls-Royce said: "BA has confirmed its selection of the RB211 engines for 14 additional Boeing 747-400 airliners, ensuring that engine deliveries continue into the next century. Future deliveries will incorporate improvement features generated by the technical development programme."

The large existing fleet of RB211 engines powering BA's

747-400s has accumulated almost 3.5 million operating hours in 450,000 flights since entry into service in 1989.

Iceland Air will order up to \$200 million worth of engines following its decision to buy four Boeing 757 aircraft. Deliveries will start in 1998 and options for further engine purchases stretch to 2006.

In addition, Rolls-Royce has strengthened its long-standing relationship with Airbus. Charles Cuddington, a project director, said: "A considerable

market is expected to emerge for the Trent 900 powering Airbus's proposed high-capacity aircraft, the A3XX. We see a demand from airlines for around 1,300 four-engine aircraft above 400 seats through to 2015."

The T1 Group's Dowty aerospace business also revealed two contracts, worth \$100 million, with Raytheon, the American aircraft company. The contracts are for landing gear systems and for hydraulic systems.

Saatchi company's biggest takeover

By Eric Reguly

MEGALOMEDIA, the multimedia company led by Lord Saatchi, made its largest acquisition yesterday with the £5.1 million purchase of Computer Film, creator of the special effects in *The Nanny*, *Professor*, *Mission Impossible* and *Con Air*.

William Sargent, chief executive of screen-based services at Megalamedia, said the combination of Computer Film and FrameStore, the Megalamedia company that provides special effects to the advertising and TV industries, will create Europe's largest full-service special effects group. FrameStore's credits include *Culliver's Travels* and *The Odyssey*.

Computer Film's owners include Terry Gilliam, the film director, Sir Tim Bell, the public relations executive, and Kent Heston, a special effects expert. They are to receive an initial payment of £5.1 million, comprised of £2.46 million cash and 2.9 million in new Megalamedia shares. If certain performance-related goals are met, an additional £1 million in loan notes and 2.7 million shares will be paid, taking the potential purchase price up to £8.6 million.

Megalamedia reported pre-tax profits of £1.67 million (£309,000) in the year to March 31, on turnover up almost fourfold to £6.7 million. Earnings per share were 2.01p (0.73p), and a final dividend of 0.2p is to be paid on October 1.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Plysu's Spanish gain

PLYSU, the paper and packaging group, yesterday paid £4.25 million for Iplast, a Spanish bottling business. Plysu recently announced the formation of a Spanish company, Plysu Envases Alimentarios.

David O'Shaughnessy, chairman, said: "We shall exploit opportunities we have identified there for liquid food packaging, capitalising on our technical superiority, particularly in the manufacture of lightweight bottles." He added that the group plans further carefully targeted acquisitions to give the appropriate geographical spread of product coverage. Growth prospects are "attractive", he said. Plysu also revealed a rise in pre-tax profits from £6.9 million to £9.3 million in the year to end March. Earnings rose from 9.6p to 12.5p, out of which a full-year dividend — increased from 7.35p to 7.75p — will be paid. The shares rose 2p, to 158p.

Greenbury shares sale

SIR RICHARD GREENBURY, chairman of Marks & Spencer, made £242,000 yesterday by exercising some of his options. Sir Richard, who led the high-level committee which reported on executive pay, acquired 87,789 shares at 254p and sold them at 530p each. His total holding in the company remains unchanged at 42,432 shares. His salary package for the year to March 31 will be revealed in the report and accounts next week. In 1995/96 he received £816,000.

Deltron tops £1m

DELTRON ELECTRONICS, the distributor and manufacturer of electronic components, raised pre-tax profits from £891,000 to £1.04 million on sales almost unchanged at £12.3 million in the six months to March 31. Earnings per share, however, fell from 4.2p to 3.8p. A half-year dividend of 1p a share is promised, as indicated in the group's listing particulars published at the time of the company's flotation in September 1996.

Hill Hire increases

HILL HIRE, the Bradford truck and trailer rental group, raised pre-tax profits 28 per cent to £4.2 million in the year to March 31 on sales up 39 per cent to £20.3 million. Earnings rose 27 per cent to 12.84p and a total dividend of 4p will be paid, a rise of 8 per cent. The company says it intends to establish itself as a national rental brand by the year 2000 operating from eight sites. The company operates from five locations and is looking to expand in the South East and South West.

Barclays makes move for Japan 'Big Bang'

By Robert Miller, Banking Correspondent

BARCLAYS BANK yesterday moved to strengthen its links with a Japanese bank prior to Japan's own version of the City of London's "Big Bang".

Barclays announced that it has reached agreement with the Hokkaido Takushoku Bank (Takushoku) to discuss areas of possible mutual co-operation. The two banks, which have had an established relationship for more than 25 years, hope to find ways of developing and distributing

new financial products in Japan as well as securitising some of Takushoku's assets.

Since late last year Barclays has been studying different ways of strengthening its presence in the Japanese markets after de-regulation takes effect later this year. The United Kingdom clearer has already increased the capital to BZW Securities (Japan), its investment banking subsidiary in the region, to ¥43 billion (£230 million).

Britax makes £73m German acquisition

By George Stivell

BRITAX INTERNATIONAL, the vehicle component and assembly group, is to pay £73 million cash for the Buderus Sell Group in Germany which makes commercial aircraft interior equipment.

The move will strengthen Britax's position in this market at a time when the company believes the civil aviation industry is in the early phase of a growth cycle.

Because of its size the deal is subject to approval by Britax

shareholders. The Buderus Sell Group made DM10.5 million before tax on sales of DM106 million in the year to September 30, 1996, and had net assets of around DM40 million. Since the year end a fundamental improvement has been reported in the Buderus Sell trading performance.

The acquisition by Britax follows the sale of the Bristol Street companies for £72 million.

GENERAL

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UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Sponsored section

Industry aid to stem brain drain

Surrey offers a fast track to academic success, says Chris Partridge

ONE of the major problems most universities face is losing their brightest researchers to industry. They have barely got their hands round their PhD scrolls and they are off to highly paid posts in commercial research laboratories or, even worse, sales and marketing, where their scientific knowledge and expertise is often wasted.



Vice-Chancellor Patrick Dowling

Now Professor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Surrey, has devised a plan to lure top post-graduate students back to the university. It is called the Surrey Scholar scheme and is essentially a fast track up the academic ladder, in the same way that large companies have accelerated promotion paths for talented managers.

"These people have difficulty getting into university at the post-doctoral stage, so we lose a lot to industry," says Professor Dowling. "The concept is simple — to give industry the opportunity to invest in post-doctoral students."

An impressive roll of blue-chip companies has been encouraged to sponsor students. The British Gas Surrey Scholar will look at reclaiming contaminated land, a big problem in preparing former gasworks for other uses. The British Steel Surrey Stu-

dent will look at the energy efficiency of steel as a construction material.

Other sponsors include Philips Electronics, Fina and Petrofina, and Unilever. And Guildford Borough Council has donated money for research into sustainable waste-management initiatives. Sponsors benefit from the expertise of a top young scientist, plus the cachet of getting the company logo associated with a prestigious academic post.

One advantage for the scholar is a considerably higher salary than they might earn elsewhere as a junior researcher. They also avoid most of the routine work re-

garded by research scientists as too distracting.

"Surrey Scholars get released from teaching and administration so they can develop an innovative research programme over three years," says Professor Dowling.

The benefit for the university is partly in prestige, of course, and this has already begun to pay dividends. "For the first

Unilever Scholar, we had applications from the premier research institutes in Switzerland, France and Germany, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Cambridge," says Professor Dowling.



Surrey graduates celebrate the end of their courses and, right, a model of the new European Institute of Health and Medical Sciences building



Dedicated to diversity

Surrey's entrepreneurial spirit and desire to be part of the community has turned it into a key player in the local economy, says Chris Partridge

EVEN after three decades of academic revolution, it is rare to come across a university with such lofty ideals and financial nous as Surrey University.

Many institutions seem to have either retreated into scholarship and the arts to escape the need to cope with the modern world, while others give the impression that they are totally devoted to making huge amounts of money on the science park or out of fat European research contracts.

But when Professor Patrick Dowling, Surrey's Vice-Chancellor, speaks of his vision for the future, he uses a strange mixture of academic and commercial language.

"Our core business is in teaching and research of a world-class standard," he says. "Our objective is to achieve academic excellence with economic strength. Academic strength is useless if you are about to go broke."

This independent attitude dates from 1981, when Surrey was hard hit by cuts in higher education. Since then, a major aim of the university has been to seek greater independence from government grants. To-

day, only 40 per cent of the university's income is in the form of UK government hand-outs, says Professor Dowling. Surrey University now has an entrepreneurial attitude that is held up as a model worldwide.

A major money-earner has been the Surrey Research Park, which was formed on land close to the campus 12 years ago.

"A substantial amount of money comes from our research park, which is one of the best in northern Europe," says Professor Dowling.

"They genuinely do research at Surrey" — they are not allowed to do anything else. It is not an industrial estate masquerading as a research park," he says.

He also points out that the university does not just consume — it puts much back into the community. "We are a major player in the Surrey economy, with a contribution of £450 million a year," he adds. The emphasis on eco-

nomics performance spills over into the academic programme. This is not a place where people learn interesting but useless skills, says Professor

"Our objective is to achieve academic excellence with economic strength"

Dowling. "Our mission is training people to create jobs, not just to get jobs. We produce entrepreneurs."

Even the more altruistic areas of the university's work have a practical aim. Professor Dowling is keen to help two groups with particular difficulties when it comes to finding jobs, especially refugees.

"One special thing we do is help refugees. Some are quite educated but do not know how to get into the system," he says. "We use an old mechanics' institute in Guildford as a centre for advising them on how to get into worthwhile employment."

Professor Dowling is also keen to help those who grow up in deprived circumstances, and those who have fallen by the wayside.

"I am particularly concerned about underprivileged youngsters. People who grow up in middle-class homes have a 71 per cent chance of going to university — those from a working-class background have a 17 per cent chance," he says.

"There was quite a shake-out in the City in the recession, so it was a shock to find, in leafy Surrey, a lot of professional people taking 'early retirement' and not having anything to do. We are now offering life-long learning courses very successfully."

Now that the recession is

Forum to help boost economy

Rodney Hobson on a new business initiative

Strong links between the University of Surrey and local business are being further boosted this year.

The university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Dowling, will launch Surrey Innovation Forum this month at the university's research park. The forum is part of a £450,000 programme co-ordinated by Business Link Surrey to boost the local economy through better application of technology.

Professor Dowling will draw parallels between opportunities in Surrey and the way leading universities in America create major economic growth.

Surrey University was one of the founding members of Surrey Business Link, which is intended to operate as a one-stop shop dispensing advice and practical help to small and medium businesses.

The forum will improve communications between the university, companies and research organisations and ensure that the real needs of growing companies are properly understood.

Peter Cousins, deputy chief executive of Business Link Surrey, says: "Fast-growing smaller firms are an important source of employment in Surrey and this project will accelerate their growth."

Surrey County Council is also encouraging innovation through the Animate project, which has European Union backing. The aim is to persuade local companies to sell in Europe.

Earlier this year the EU awarded grants for two other research projects at the university. One will look for ways to place graduates in small and medium businesses and the second will consider how universities can improve links with the business world.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

The Surrey Scholars Scheme

Frontier Research in Partnership with Industry

Sponsored by industry and other organisations, the prestigious Surrey Scholars Scheme attracts international researchers of the highest calibre to undertake post-doctoral research at the University working alongside world-class research groups in Engineering, Science, Social Sciences and the Humanities.



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"The BG plc Surrey Scholar will be engaged in environmental research, and BG plc are delighted to participate in this innovative collaboration between industry and scholarship. Partnerships of this type will have a bright future for Britain's environment and we look forward to working with the University of Surrey on this exciting project."

David Varney Chief Executive

British Steel

"British Steel has previously enjoyed a fruitful relationship with the Vice Chancellor of the University of Surrey, Professor Patrick Dowling, in the field of constructional steelwork, and hopes to build on that success through the Surrey Scholars Scheme. I look forward to the British Steel Surrey Scholar's help in employing steel's excellent environmental credentials to develop future steel intensive systems for a variety of applications."

Jeff Edington Executive Director, Technology

PHILIPS

"Philips Research has had excellent links with the University of Surrey for many years. We welcome this opportunity to strengthen our relationship in the exciting field of Large Area Electronics through participation in the Surrey Scholars Scheme."

Peter Saraga Managing Director

PETROFINA

"The Surrey Scholars Scheme provides a unique opportunity for collaboration between Fina plc, Petrofina SA and the University of Surrey in ground-breaking research in the polymer field. Fina is pleased to be associated with such an innovative scheme, which allows a partnership approach to areas of fundamental interest to industry and scholarship."

François Cornells Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director

GUILD FORD BOROUGH

"Guildford Borough Council's participation in the imaginative Surrey Scholars Scheme will not only enhance the already close relationship between the University and its 'home borough' but will enable the commitment of both organisations to Agenda 21 and environmental issues generally to be advanced at a very high level."

David Watts Chief Executive

Unilever

"Unilever sees the Surrey Scholars Scheme as a major opportunity to support its key research collaboration in Magnetic Resonance Imaging, with a first class scientist. The project will enrich the already fruitful working relationship between ourselves and the University of Surrey."

Ashok Ganguly Director of Research & Engineering

For further information or a prospectus contact The Director of Academic Investment on:
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UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

A breeding ground for wealth creators

Rodney Hobson reports on a high-technology park that has attracted huge international interest

They searched high and low but according to the Koreans no one has a research park to compare with Surrey. Dr Malcolm Parry, general manager of the park, returned this week from Korea, where he was asked to chair an international committee to develop the idea of a world technology organisation, a grouping of large centres where wealth is created through technology. Other founder members include Calgary, in Canada, and Phoenix, Arizona.

"This will promote Surrey University as an example of a park that has done very well," says Dr Parry. "The Koreans looked all over the world and decided that our park was the most successful in northern Europe."

The business park also won praise in a year-long evaluation financed by a £50,000

grant from the European Union's Strategic Programme for Innovation and Technology Transfer (Sprint).

The Sprint research found that the park had fulfilled its primary aim of providing a substantial return on investment, with contributions of £7.5 million to the university up to February last year.

The survey confirmed that the park had achieved a high profile in the marketplace and had attracted high-profile international companies.

About 600,000 sq ft has been developed and is occupied by 83 companies. They employ 2,100 people and have created 900 jobs, with 500 recruits coming from the immediate area. The average turnover per employee is £71,000 — almost 60 per cent of which goes in exports.

Over the years 150 companies have taken up residence at some stage or

another, but such is the park's success rate that many have moved to larger premises.

Dr Parry says: "A proportion of businesses that have moved out have stayed locally. We form a significant part of the economic development in the locality, not only producing wealth and an income stream for the area, but also in creating new economic activity as businesses grow."

A crucial part of the process has been the provision of an incubator centre, where very small companies can take leases as short as one month. "The university is effectively subsidising economic development," says Dr Parry. "No other landlord would do it."

The Research Park, owned and developed by the university, covers 70 acres. Accommodation for high technology, research and development oc-



Dr Parry and Dr Stephen Baker, the park's development director

cupiers ranges from 600 sq ft to 100,000 sq ft. Tenants include BOC, Borax, Canon, Matsushita and Mitsubishi. The 83 companies in the park include 19 foreign ones — four from Japan and the remainder American.

"We now have a waiting list of American companies wanting to get on to the park," says Dr Parry. "It is quite embarrassing."

Dr Parry believes the success of the park reflects the quality of the low-rise, low-

density development with offices fitted to a high specification. With extensive landscaping including water features, the aim was to produce a tranquil backdrop to the sophistication of modern business, an oasis less than a mile from the centre of Guildford. Two new buildings totalling 35,000 sq ft have just been completed. About a quarter of the park has still to be developed and Dr Parry expects the full site to be completed by the end of the century.

Engineers get the green light

Industry benefits from a degree of co-operation, says Amanda Loose

A NEW breed of environmentally friendly engineers will graduate from Surrey University's Environmental Technology Doctor of Engineering (EngD) programme this autumn.

They are schooled in disciplines from the social and environmental sciences, law, management skills to media relations, and are trained to understand the wider implications of the industry.

About 15 students have enrolled each year, 30-40 per cent of whom are women. "Students are determined to make a difference," says Professor Roland Clift of Surrey's Centre for Environmental Strategy, where the course is partly based.

"We set up the course after observing that environmental problems tend to rise through lack of communication rather than limitations in technology. The senior manager of

the future is going to be a different kind of individual, one who understands social processes as well as technology; sees the whole story and can communicate with others."

The course, run jointly with Brunel University, Middlesex, was started four years ago. Students spend 75 per cent of their time working with a sponsoring company, where they complete their individual projects.

Every six weeks, students come together for taught modules, involving course work, which is also assessed. The course even includes instruc-

tion on how to handle the media. Students work with one company over the four years. These range from small operations to multinationals, and include some overseas firms. Dr Kate Burningham teaches some social science modules, including understanding environmentalism, which aims to throw light on green politics.

"Traditionally, engineering students come out of EngDs with specialised knowledge, but no overview of issues such as the environment, which is not especially useful to industry," she says.

"Industry is increasingly concerned about its environmental record and image and will inevitably need people who are well informed, not just about physical and chemical impacts on the environment, but about the whole process in its political and social context."

Satellites go into orbit economy class

Chris Partridge reports from the smallest and cheapest space mission control in the world

SURREY University's plan for the Millennium will have Britain's schoolchildren looking to the stars — by launching a satellite.

The satellite would orbit the Earth loaded with cameras and communications equipment. Schools would be able to communicate with it using simple and economical radio equipment to exchange messages worldwide.

"It is a project to inspire schoolchildren and motivate them to come into science," says Professor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor of Surrey University.

A previous satellite project run with a local school pushed entry to the science

stream up by a factor of several hundred per cent, Professor Dowling says. A national scheme could save science in schools, he believes. All Britain's schools could be involved, and it would cost only £11 million.

The Millennium satellite would be built on campus at Surrey University, one of the few academic institutions with a fully functional space centre. The control room at Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL) may not be as fancy as Mission Control, Houston, but it can do almost as much. It is the smallest and cheapest satellite control station in the world.

Surrey has pioneered the



Work in progress on a satellite at SSTL

concept of ultra-low cost satellites for communications, science and educational use. When Professor Martin Sweeting first proposed the

idea, it was a revelation to an industry which built satellites to rigorous reliability standards, regardless of cost.

Professor Sweeting pointed out that satellites made from commercial components rather than military specification parts would be a fraction of the cost, but almost as reliable.

Ed Milton, a Surrey graduate and now general manager of SSTL, describes the contrast between the approaches: "The industry was built around big, high-cost satellites with high reliability and taking from two to five years to design and make. Ours cost £1 million upwards, and take less than a year to make."

The tiny satellites, about the size of a waste-paper bin, as opposed to the elephant-sized satellites made by the big defence corporations, also save money on the ground. They are capable of operating on their own when out of sight of the Earth station, fine adjustments to their orbit being made only as they pass over Guildford.

Despite the commercial success of the operation, Mr Milton stresses that they have not lost touch with the main objective, to transfer the technology to emerging nations which need cheap communications.

SSTL can be found on <http://www.ee.surrey.ac.uk>

surrey's focus on the future



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URL: <http://www.surrey.ac.uk/>

Established in 1983, The Surrey Research Park is a campus development which houses over 83 companies including: BOC (UK), Borax Consolidated, Canon Research Centre Europe, Hyder Group and Mitsubishi Electric, all of which are engaged in leading edge science and technology.

The Surrey Technology Centre sited on the Park, is owned and managed by the University of Surrey, offers fitted suites from 250 ft² (23.25 m²) on a monthly licence. It provides meeting rooms and a central reception area as well as a restaurant, bar and conference facilities for use by all occupiers on the Park.

Multi-occupancy buildings provide suites from 1,200 to 6,000 ft² (111.75 to 557.55 m²) on flexible leases. The University of Surrey manages and maintains the buildings, car parks, landscaping and roads, allowing companies to concentrate on their business activities.

Due to be finished in July 1997, the latest phase of development will provide 7,000 to 21,000 ft² (650.3 to 1951 m²). With 22 acres (9 ha) of the 70-acre (29 ha) site still to be developed, the University of Surrey's Design and Build Programme can provide completed buildings tailored to companies' precise requirements at a realistic cost and within an agreed timescale.

For further details please contact:

Dr Malcolm Parry
The Surrey Research Park Office
30 Frederick Sanger Road
The Surrey Research Park
Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5YD
Telephone: 01483 579693
Facsimile: 01483 568946
Email: M.Parry@surrey.ac.uk
http://www.surrey.ac.uk/research_park.html

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UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Sponsored section

From infertility to dancing on the Net

Amanda Loose examines some of the wide range of research projects undertaken by the university

Research projects at the University of Surrey cover many disciplines and could benefit industry, the environment, medicine and health — even those who suffer jetlag.

Serious concerns are being tackled by the university's applied and social sciences departments. Professor Jon Groeger is studying road rage, and the psychology of driver behaviour, while Professor Ian Kitchen is looking at how morphine works in the brain, in collaboration with seven other European research centres. He hopes to discover what is responsible for its pain suppressing effects, and which genes are responsible for the addictive process.

Professor Josephine Arendt is looking at how melatonin

can help the blind to regulate their body clocks, and also provide the natural answer to jetlag. Low levels of selenium, a trace mineral found in bread, cereals, fish, poultry and meat, could be contributing to cancers, cardiovascular disease and fertility problems, says research fellow Margaret Rayman.

She says: "Selenium is part of the enzyme which helps to remove damaged molecules that over time could cause harm, such as damage to DNA which could cause mutations, or the laying down of matter in the arteries. Selenium is also needed in the tail of male sperm to enable it to

swim effectively. A random study of 1,312 elderly American patients showed a 50 per cent lower cancer mortality in those receiving selenium."

"Our daily intake of selenium has fallen by 26 micrograms since 1974, when we joined the EU, as imports of North American flour, which is rich in selenium, have been substantially reduced. But it has been added to fertiliser in Finland, since 1984, and is added to salt in China. Animals have been given supplements since 1978 as selenium deficiency can cause white muscle disease, so why not give it to humans?"

the repair and replacement of existing structures — such as houses, roads and bridges — than on new projects. Some coatings are very expensive, and no one is certain how effective they are, or when is the best time to apply them.

'Animals are given extra selenium, so why not humans?'

Over in the Department of Physics, Dr Peter McDonald heads up Surrey's magnetic resonance imaging group, which is looking at the effectiveness of the various coatings used to protect buildings and structures from water and weather damage.

Dr McDonald says: "More money is spent in the West on

"Most damage is linked to water transportation, such as freeze-thaw. By using stray field magnetic resonance (Strafi), a form of magnetic resonance imaging, we are able to follow water or other fluids and solids into and out of a material, and look at how

far they go into a structure. "We put a short pulse of radio waves into a sample of, for example, concrete, for a few millionths of a second, which excites the protons and causes them to resonate, and we computerise their response."

Surrey operates the only full-time Strafi machine in the country, and is also looking at how dental resins are affected by constant exposure to bodily fluids, how paint dries and how petroleum products affect the durability of the plastic containers in which they are held.

Dr Susan Kozell runs the University's dance and culture course, a modular BA programme running since 1981 with around 30 students each year. It encompasses the culture, philosophy and anthropological theories of dance and the traditional history and repertoire of dance.

Apart from lessons in ballet and contemporary dance, students also learn African dance, and an Indian dance known as Kathak. Dr Kozell says: "We want to produce a thinking dancer, with a thorough background. My own research area is dancing and new



Susan Kozell, who specialises in dance, has performed with a colleague via the Internet

technology, including dance on the Internet."

Last month Dr Kozell and a colleague danced together in cyberspace. Dr Kozell was at the Electronic Art Festival in Vancouver, Canada, while her

colleague was in London. Using a small camera, linked to a computer, their images were simultaneously projected onto a screen in Vancouver.

Dr Kozell says: "It changes your rhythms and move-

ments, and extends your performance space. Austin University in Texas wants us to participate in their lectures via the Internet. Students could link up for discussion and dance afterwards."

Services to Business

Materials Science department:

- Fully comprehensive surface analysis facilities
- Metallographic preparation and microscopy services
- Electron microscopy and interpretation
- Fully comprehensive mechanical testing facilities
- Wide range of furnaces for all types of heat treatment for both metals and ceramics
- Workshop equipped for design and construction of small one-off pieces
- Facilities for characterisation of composite materials of all types

Conference Services At The University of Surrey

- Conference & Banqueting facilities for 10-400 delegates
- New meeting room and exhibition complex now available
- 500 ensuite bedrooms
- Training Centre with year-round availability

Department of Mechanical Engineering National Power Environmental Flow Research Centre - EnFlo

Consultancy services in the following areas:

- Fluid flow and pollutant dispersion problems in the atmosphere
- Physical modelling (in our large rigs) is possible, including use of topographical models and measurements of concentration levels downstream of sources (i.e. controlled or accidental releases of contaminants) in a range of atmospheric conditions
- We can undertake computational modelling, using state-of-the-art dispersion codes

EDUCATION LIAISON CENTRE

- Forging links between the University and the outside world
- Establishing contacts with local, national and international businesses
- Establishing contacts with local and international schools
- The Guildford Consortium has developed links between the University and educational establishments and businesses in Russia, Bulgaria, Latvia, Belarus, Ukraine and Romania
- International Projects such as Euromove and Leonardo deal with trans-European employment issues, identifying graduate skills for Small & Medium Enterprises. This research will also be dealt with in a national project funded by HERD.
- Close contacts with local business links such as Training & Enterprise Council, Education Business Partnership and Government Office of South East, offering possibilities for organisations exchanges with overseas partners in business and education.

Contact Margaret Wallace
Office for Research and Commercial Services
Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5XH
Fax: 44- (0)1483 259520
Tel: 44- (0)1483 259063
E-Mail: M.Wallace@surrey.ac.uk

Accelerating to the millennium

Silicon chips from Surrey will be vital to a national research programme

THE transistors that cover the surface of a silicon chip are now only a few thousands of a millimetre across. They are so small that making them involves firing obscure elements into the silicon almost atom by atom. It is high technology at its highest, and Surrey University is at the cutting edge. Chris Partridge writes.

One of the critical processes used in building up the delicate structures of a silicon chip is ion implantation. Charged atoms of the required element (arsenic is a common one) are accelerated by powerful magnets to exactly the right speed and directed on to the right point on the chip, to form the combination of positively and negatively charged areas that a transistor requires.

This operation is precise beyond comprehension, so it

is performed, the laws of physics being what they are, by a machine the size of a small house and costing more than £1 million. It is an ion beam accelerator and Surrey University has just acquired a new one.

"The particles have to be accelerated to very precise speeds to place them at very shallow levels in the chip," explains Professor Brian Sealy, head of the Ion Beam Centre. "The new machine is the only one in a UK research establishment capable of doing this to the accuracy required by future generations of chips."

The new machine places Surrey University at the heart of a network of research

establishments in Britain which are joining their various capabilities to form a "virtual factory" for production of semiconductor devices for research.

The virtual factory will be located all over Britain, from Edinburgh to Southampton, at research establishments with the various specialist plant required. The parts will be shuffled from place to place for processing under computer control. A commercial wafer fabrication facility has all these machines under one roof, but these are designed to produce huge numbers of identical chips. The research community needs only small numbers of any particular chip, and the ma-

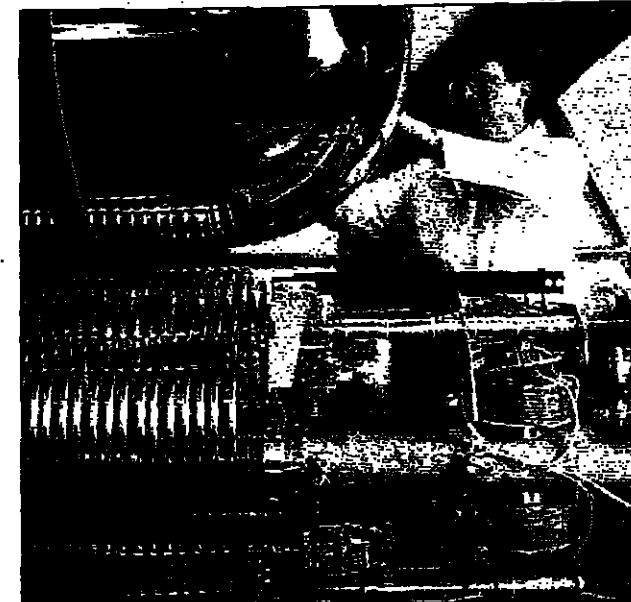
A 'virtual factory' is almost upon us

chines must be flexible enough to perform other experiments, Professor Sealy says.

So Surrey's ion beam implanter will not only make chips, but will take Surrey to the forefront of British research into another crucial area of tomorrow's technology — displays for computers and television sets.

Researchers worldwide are trying to find ways of creating displays as thin as pictures on the wall, but to do this requires the ability to cover the surface with millions of light-emitting devices such as transistors.

The ion beam implanter is specially adapted to do just this, and a Philips Surrey Scholar has been appointed to specialise in the research. Philips has a particular interest in active matrix displays



The new ion beam accelerator cost more than £1 million

for laptop computers and personal videos, which are currently the most expensive component of such devices.

Professor Sealy also expects to use the machine to create devices in gallium arsenide, a

material like silicon only potentially many times faster. The machine could even be used to implant ions into crude mechanical parts to create ball bearings with super hard surfaces.

Career booster

Amanda Loose reports on a successful work scheme for undergraduates

Many graduates are faced with prospective employers who ask for experience, something students struggle to gain while at university. Each year, around 80 per cent of graduates from the University of Surrey have already spent a year working in their field, thanks to its pioneering professional training course. The university has the lowest rate of graduate unemployment of any of the established universities. Professional training is open to all third-year students, and some 1,000 are placed by the professional training placement tutor in their department each year.

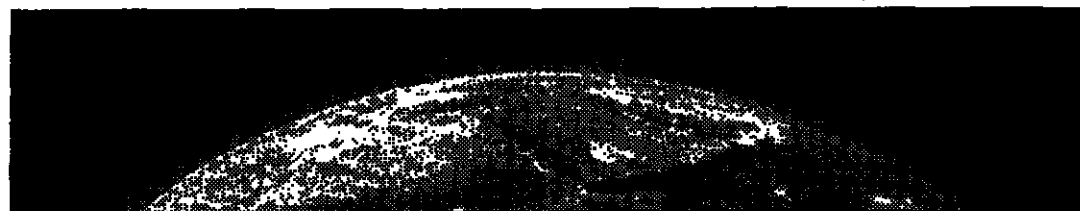
The programme has been running since the early Seventies, and means that graduates "hit the ground running", says Dr David Pollard, chairman of the professional training committee. He says: "The professional training year helps students to put what they have learnt into practice. They take the educational benefits of the first and second year into an industrial or professional environment. Skills are developed and taken back to the university, enhancing the students' levels of achievement in their final year."

Students must use their initiative, and learn what a profession is all about, often doing the same jobs as graduates. They are more mature and self-critical when they come back, and some even go back to the same company when they graduate. Senior tutors make the applications on behalf of students, having discussed with them what kind of company they want to work for. Students have been placed with British Airways, Esso, Smith-Kline Beecham and Airbus in France.

A member of staff visits the student over the year, and their assessments can count for up to 15 per cent of their final degree classification. The Association of the University of Surrey presented to graduates relates to their performance, and is co-signed by a professional institution in some cases.

Sally Edwards is in the final year of chemical and process engineering. She spent nine months with ICI in Runcorn as a project manager, and over three months at their Botany Bay plant in Australia.

She says: "The professional training year was one of the main reasons I chose Surrey."



Sky High at Surrey

Groundbreaking research in the field of satellite engineering and communications has won the University of Surrey a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education. In another boost for the University's Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, it achieved the top 5* ranking in the latest Research Assessment Exercise.

In our research we aim high - we pioneered affordable access to space with smaller, faster, cheaper satellites. But we don't have our heads in the clouds and we don't stop at producing first class research - we apply it. Our satellite engineering and communications expertise is employed in our own company Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL) and in the work of our Centre for Satellite Engineering Research (CSER) and Centre for Communication Systems Research (CCSR).

CSER & SSTL provide a unique combination of advanced satellite research coupled with commercial application in a University environment. They have built and launched 12 highly sophisticated microsatellites placing Britain at the forefront of the international satellite industry by leading the world in:

- pioneering faster, cheaper satellites since 1979 and launching two microsatellites per year since 1990 at an average cost of £2m each - a tiny fraction of conventional space costs.
- researching innovative and cost-effective small satellite techniques - and then proving them in orbit by actually designing, building and launching microsatellites.
- demonstrating real-life applications of microsatellites to Earth observation, communications, science & defence.
- providing technology transfer and in-depth training to emerging space nations - enabling seven countries to take their first steps into orbit with Surrey at low-cost and risk.



CCSR is a core member of two UK Virtual Centres of Excellence in Research into Mobile and Personal Communications and Multimedia Broadcasting. It also:

- is internationally renowned in the key areas of mobile and multimedia communications, broadband networking and digital signal processing
- attracts £3m annually in research funding
- is a major participant in EU Framework Projects
- collaborates widely with industry in Europe and the US
- runs unique Masters and Continuing Education programmes in satellite and mobile communications.



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CCSR
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A thriving economy for Surrey through business success

RELOCATING?

SURREY FIRST, the County's Inward Investment Agency, a partnership between public and private sectors, will assist your move into the County. We provide help with the whole location process from initial enquiry to the crucial "aftercare" that every new business is bound to need.

ALREADY DOING BUSINESS IN SURREY?

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL wants to see your business succeed and to ensure that Surrey remains your first choice for location.

Surrey County Council's Economic Development Office:

- works in partnership with the Business community
- implements an Economic Strategy and Action Plan
- publishes economic information
- supports European initiatives
- promotes the Tourism sector in Surrey

For further information on how Surrey County Council and Surrey First can help you, contact:

Jeff Bartley, Economic Development Officer,
Surrey County Council
Tel: 0181 541 9602 Fax: 0181 541 9447
Email: edo@surreycc.gov.uk

Peter Bragg, Chief Executive, Surrey First
Tel: 01483 453348 Fax: 01483 450221
Email: office@surrey-first.co.uk





CHIEF COUNSEL AND LEGAL DIRECTOR To £150,000 package

Thanks to its clear vision, substantial resources and strong leadership, AT&T Capital is one of the leading global providers of financing programmes for equipment manufacturers and vendors. 1996 has been yet another year of outstanding financial performance with record revenues totalling \$2 billion, up almost 24% on 1995.

AT&T Capital Europe has operations throughout Europe and is a key business unit of AT&T Capital, known for consistently breaking new ground with its innovative and imaginative initiatives.

Our client seeks a senior lawyer to be a key strategic member within its European operations (based at its headquarters in Central London) and to lead its existing team of European lawyers.

With between 10 and 15 years' ppe in a major European jurisdiction, you will have a broad ranging corporate/commercial or finance law background gained in either an organisation of similar standing or private practice. A knowledge of leasing, equipment finance and secured finance, ideally in a multidisciplinary context, would certainly be helpful but not essential. Languages, in addition to English, would also be useful. Crucial, however, is a strong minded business awareness, effective communication and implementation skills and the ability to establish credibility quickly at all levels both inside and outside the company. You will be challenged by the prospect of making a creative and proactive legal and business contribution in a demanding and varied marketplace.

This is an exceptional opportunity to be part of AT&T Capital's core business strategy, a company which is recognised by its customers as an outstanding provider of high quality financial services, by its owners as an outstanding investment and by its members as an outstanding place to work.



For further information in complete confidence, please contact June Mearle or Michelle McGregor on 0171-405 6062 during office hours or 0171-792 0475 at evenings or weekends, or write to them at Quarry Douglall In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. QD In-House Legal are handling the assignment on an exclusive basis and all direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them.

CHAMBERS

23 LONG LANE LONDON EC3A 9HL TEL: 0171-406 8844 (FAX: 0171-600 1795)

Reasons for relocating

What do you say when your prospective employer asks you why you want to relocate? Being interviewed in the staff partner's office of the leading law firm in Cleveleys, do you admit that the real reason for your move is your girlfriend's appointment at the local Cleveleys hospital? Probably not. There are better reasons which inspire greater confidence. Not that many employers are proud any longer about candidates living with their partners unmarried. They simply need to hear reasons which sound both serious and durable. The staff partner has visions of your girlfriend meeting a handsome young doctor. And if this should happen, he asks himself, is there any guarantee that you won't decide to leave Cleveleys and return home? One of our candidates from a large City firm found a job with a firm in Grimsby precisely for this reason - to join his girlfriend. He didn't give this as his reason, or he wouldn't have got the job. But the very weekend the week due to start, his girlfriend left him and he decided to remain in London. Candidates may wish to avoid mentioning girlfriends or boyfriends, even as an afterthought. Any astute interviewer will realise at once that the afterthought is more significant than all the other reasons put together.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY
Our legal directory is available from Blake, (01408-710 977)

INDUSTRY Sonya Rayner, Fiona Boxall, Morwenna Lewis, Aileen Shepherd

Project Finance: N Home Counties International seeks solicitor with 5 yrs' ppe to handle JV's, loan documentation and project finance issues related to the group's worldwide development portfolio.

Contentious Employment: London Household name needs solicitor 1-3 yrs' ppe with proven advocacy skills to handle employment claims and represent the company at industrial tribunals.

Professional Negligence: Berkshire 2 year qualified defendant professional negligence solicitor required for financial services company. Role also includes general legal services advice on contracts and some project work. Excellent communication skills and ability to work on own initiative are vital.

PRIVATE PRACTICE LONDON: David Woolson, Simon Anderson
SOUTH: Helen Mills, Noel Murray NORTH: Sukh Bhatta, Paul Thomas

Partnership Positions
We have been seeking partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Employment: EC4
1996 qualified with around a year's employment experience sought by small, friendly team in 50 partner City firm to handle contentious/loan contentious mix.

Private Client: City
Leading practice, well known for acting for substantial art collectors, seeks 6 month-2 year qualified solicitor for full range of private client work.

Construction: Hong Kong
Major City firm with significant Asia Pacific presence seeks a 2-4 year qualified construction litigator to join their Hong Kong office. Generous ex-pat package.

Pensions Partner: City
Unique opportunity for senior pensions solicitor to head-up and develop a pensions practice with law firm associated with 'big six' accountants.

IP/Competition: London
Top manufacturing organisation requires lawyer 2-5 yrs' ppe to handle performance and mechanical rights issues & deal with EC competition authorities.

Company/Commercial: London
Opportunity for a general commercial solicitor with c. 2-4 years' ppe to enjoy in house life. Experience of JV's, general contracts, Yellow Book and Companies Act work is essential. Involves some travel.

Trusts: Manchester
Well-known company is looking for a solicitor with c. 2-5 years' ppe to work closely with sales team to provide tailor made insurance policies for clients. Experience of tax and trusts for private clients is important.

Banking Litigation: City
Leading City banking firm seeks 2-5 year qualified banking litigation lawyer with strong technical skills & commercial flair. A genuine 'fast track' opportunity.

Corporate/Venture Capital: City
Outstanding career prospects and quality of work offered to 2-5 year qualified solicitor by 'big six' accountants' law firm. £100 City market rate.

Head of London Office: US Firm
Highly prestigious medium-sized East Coast firm seeks senior corporate solicitor to head City practice. Broad transactional caseload.

Corporate Tax: Leeds
Forward thinking firm has an opportunity for a 2-4 year qualified solicitor to handle corporate tax and employee share schemes. Excellent package offered.

Private Client Partner: London/Kent
Regional heavyweight seeks senior private client specialist to service growing high net worth client base. Definite partnership appointment.

The Latest.....17/6/97

MOSCOW COM. PROPERTY

1-5yrs
Unique opportunity for UK qualified property lawyer (ideally with training in a major City or provincial firm) to undertake interesting Eastern European property work in Moscow office of Top 10 City firm. No language skills/qualification necessary. A superb chance to work in a fascinating environment with top UK package.

PRIVATE CLIENT

6mths-3yrs
70 partner City firm with friendly profile offers exciting opportunity for junior Private Client lawyer to handle unusually broad variety of work. Strong academics & City/major provincial exp're desirable.

COMMERCIAL/BANKING

4-5yrs
Unusual role in highly regarded 15 partner West End firm to undertake a broad workload of banking and commercial work. Genuine prospects and salary to £20K.

PROPERTY

NQ-3yrs
Highly regarded W. End firm seeks bright lawyer to join busy team. Friendly department with impressive clients & excellent prospects.

BANKING

NQ-5yrs
City firm offers great opportunity for commercial lawyers to play a part in establishing new Banking team. May suit Aust/NZ sols.

CORP. FINANCE/MEDIA

3-6yrs
Popular W. End media firm offering a genuinely good quality of life plus a glamorous client base seeks top calibre Corporate Finance lawyer to spearhead this work in their thriving Corporate/Commercial dept. A superb move away from a large City player, offering genuine prospects, strong personal autonomy and an interesting workload.

FAMILY

2-4yrs
Popular firm with leading reputation in family law seeks very bright lawyer to join its thriving team. Excellent academics and experience of high net worth cases is vital.

COMMERCIAL

NQ
Small and friendly City firm requires ambitious and personable junior lawyer. Varied and interesting work with a strong international element is guaranteed. City training desirable.

CORPORATE TAX

NQ-4yrs
Progressive firm offers truly varied workload in an entrepreneurial environment. A real chance to make a mark. Sept NQ's considered.

IT/TELECOMS

2-4yrs
High profile caseload in Media dept of City firm with a leading reputation in Communications. Good IT/software exp'ce essential.

FUND MANAGEMENT CO

1-4yrs
London - Marvellous opportunity for City trained lawyer to join prestigious fund management co. to carry out genuinely varied international workload. Experience of financial services, banking or corporate law required. Highly attractive package.

US MULTINATIONAL

2-4yrs
Berkshire - 'Once in a lifetime' opportunity for a bright, ambitious, commercial lawyer to assist the high calibre UK Counsel at progressive US multinational. Great working environment and excellent (medium term) prospects both inside & outside law. Call for details!!

SOLE LAWYER

3yrs++
Northern Home Counties- High tech manufacturing co seeks bright commercial lawyer with IP experience for sole in-house role. Salary to c£45k + car & package.

FINANCE / LEASING CO

3yrs+
South East- Diversified financial services co. seeks an adaptable leasing/finance specialist with a strong commercial approach to join their well regarded team. Positive working environment and generous package.

For further information, please call Caroline Fish (London), or Stuart Hall (In-House) on 0171 430 1711, or write to Graham Gill & Young, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax: 0171 831 4186.



0171 430 1711

Corporate Tax & Custom Duties

The Tax Department at Lovell White Durrant is experiencing an increasing demand for a high level tax service.

With strength in depth across the range of direct and indirect tax work in areas of planning, structural, advisory and transactional support work, the department services the clients of the firm across the whole spectrum.

Providing advice on UK tax and on multi-national deals with foreign content, the department advises household names, banks, insurance companies and other leading financial institutions as well as UK and international public and private companies.

The department is seeking a number of lawyers in the following areas:-

- Solicitors, barristers or accountants seeking to handle a variety of work within the corporate tax team. You should have a minimum of 12 months' experience and a maximum of 3 years. Full training and support will be given.
- A finance tax specialist is sought at the 3-4 year-qualified level. You will come from another leading City or international firm and have immediately relevant experience. You will become an integral part of this growing tax finance team.
- A Customs Duty specialist with at least 2 years' relevant experience - whether gained at Customs, or in a law or accountancy practice, or at the Bar - is needed to help the lead partner develop the practice. You must have the ambition and capability to be a business developer and a good technician.

All of these appointments will command excellent salary and benefits packages and new recruits will enjoy the challenge of joining a busy and profitable department poised for further growth.

For further information on Lovell White Durrant or any of these positions, please contact our retained consultants, Sally Horrox or Yvonne Smyth on 0171 377 0510 (0181 995 3396 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Zarak Macne Brennan, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential 0171 247 5174. Email sally@zmb.co.uk. Web pages http://www.zmb.co.uk.

LEGAL DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY

Package exceeding £100k

Central London

Our client is a major, high-profile business with a turnover exceeding £1 billion and employing approximately 20,000 staff, with a daily customer base of 6 million. Major capital investment is supporting the expansion of core services. The management challenges are significant in both scale and complexity, and include innovative technology and the need to sustain the highest possible standards of customer service.

The range of legal issues encountered is broad and varied. Key ingredients for future success include:

- major commercial negotiations, franchises and contracts;
- property law;
- employment law and pensions;
- litigation;
- private finance initiative schemes.

The Legal Director and Secretary is responsible for all legal services including a substantial in-house Legal Department and use of external advisors. In addition to giving strategic leadership to the in-house team, the appointee is Secretary to the board and plays a vital role as advisor (not only on legal matters)

to board members and senior management.

The position calls for an outstanding qualified solicitor or barrister with considerable experience advising at senior levels on a broad range of legal and non-legal matters. The ability - and proven track record - to work as a business partner with board members and senior managers, winning their confidence and achieving results, is vital. Broad experience in varied organisations and legal environments (eg experience of both private and public sectors) would be ideal, but exceptional talent and achievement are more important.

Remuneration will be negotiated with the preferred candidate but is likely to comprise a base salary of up to £90,000, a bonus scheme of up to 25% of salary and valuable additional benefits (including pension and car).

Please apply in strict confidence by sending your CV (including details of qualifications, relevant experience, latest remuneration, address and telephone numbers and date of birth) quoting reference DTLD to Douglas Board at Saxton Bampfylde International plc, PO Box 198, Guildford GU1 4FH (fax 01483 30 30 29) to arrive not later than Friday 27 June 1997. We will contact you by 19 July.



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PROPERTY

Move out and move up if you are a big city lawyer keen to enjoy the finer things in life. This leading south coast firm can offer you just that, as well as top quality work and very advanced career prospects if you are a commercial property lawyer with 3+ years' ppe from a City or major provincial firm. Ref: T37665

SENIOR CORPORATE INSURANCE

To £150,000
This is the chance for a senior corporate insurance lawyer really to hit the big time by joining one of the City's leading insurance practices as second in command. You will have a good understanding of the Lloyd's market and handle clients well, because that is what is expected of a partner here. Ref: T34139

IN-HOUSE CAPITAL MARKETS

To £100,000+
If capital markets work is your thing, and in-house appeals, then this is the perfect move. One of the world's leading investment houses needs a lawyer with 4-7 years' ppe and experience of derivatives, structured products and repackaging to take over those parts of its legal department. Ref: T71150

IT LITIGATION

To £65,000
The London office of this major national firm is ideal for the type of IT litigator who wants to join a very active practice at the cutting edge of the field, where the prospects are better than at the large City firms and the environment is extremely encouraging. A great move if you have 3-5 years' ppe. Ref: T39488

IP

To £70,000
You can be sure of working for some of the world's leading companies at this top 10 City firm, and the effect that will have on your career is incalculably good. It is looking to take on a IP lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe, good academics and a mix of contentious and especially non-contentious experience. Ref: T40656

TELECOMS

To £48,000
This is a very good time to join one of the City's leading high-tech firms, as some of the best telecoms lawyers you can hope to advise on are waiting for you. You will have 2-4 years' ppe in the regulatory side of telecoms from a recognised practice. If you do well, you will be very, very well rewarded. Ref: T10835

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL

To £100,000
This leading medium-sized City firm is a great place to be a corporate/commercial lawyer. Firstly, you can stay a generalist and enjoy a broad spread of work. Secondly, its corporate department is looking to grow, meaning you will be first in line for promotion. Lawyers with 2-3 and 4+ years' ppe please. Ref: T39792



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Sarah David, Stephen Rodney or Seamus Hoar (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0181-789 7704 or 0171-354 3079 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Douglall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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The f

Forty years of success

Frances Gibb
hails Justice, the
group that has
broken new
ground in fighting
legal miscarriages

Robert Weeks spent 15 years in prison. When he was 17, he stole goods worth 35p and threatened a shopkeeper with a starting pistol. He was eventually released on licence, but was then recalled to prison. Both decisions were made in secret by the Parole Board.

Weeks had no legal representation and did not know the reason for his continued detention. Justice, the all-party human rights group, was able to show that his life sentence was unjust and to have it remitted. The group also took the case to Europe, prompting a change in the law, so that decisions about prisoners serving discretionary life sentences are now made in the open, by a tribunal.

In another case, Jacqueline Fletcher, was convicted of murdering her baby son. Her conviction rested heavily on confession evidence obtained without proper safeguards and on misleading scientific evidence. Paul and Wayne Darvell served six years before it was proved that police had altered the two's confession statements and that crucial forensic evidence exonerating them had not been disclosed. With the help of BBC television's pioneering *Rough Justice* programmes, Justice proved the innocence of all three.

In the past decade such cases have been front-page news. But when Justice began its work, 40 years ago this year, miscarriages of justice were not acknowledged. There was a culture of complacency in the legal establishment, which failed to recognise that the police — for the best of motives — could fabricate evidence; that the courts could get it wrong. It was Tom Sargent, the first secretary of Justice, who first took on some of the allegations of wrongful convictions. Anne Owers, director of Justice for the past five years, says: "The council [of Justice] did not think it was our job. But he [Sargent] saw such huge injustices." At that time, she says, doubts were raised time



Jacqueline Fletcher, convicted of murdering her baby, won an appeal with Justice's help, and below, Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, chairman of Justice's council, and Presley Baxendale, QC, council member



and again about cases such as the Luton Post Office murder, but the jury verdict was sacrosanct and it was impossible to have convictions quashed.

This year the first public body charged with investigating miscarriages of justice began its work. The Criminal Cases Review Commission will now take on the hundreds of cases a year in which people claim to have been wrongly convicted or sentenced.

For Justice, the achievement is a

milestone. Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, chairman of its council, says: "We pressed this for many years, and again before the Royal Commission under Lord Runciman — and, impressed with our arguments, he recommended it and pushed it through. I do not believe that without our input, it would have been achieved."

Justice has come far since it was founded in 1957 as the British section of the International Commission of Jurists. It began with a

watching brief on human rights, when an all-party group of lawyers went to observe the treason trials in South Africa and Hungary. For years, it operated on a shoe string from tiny offices in Chancery Lane. But it has always commanded the backing of leading lawyers in the profession, who have been ready to give their time to its detailed law reform research and reports. They see it as the "conscience of the profession" — a role much needed, according to Tony Holland, its

executive chairman, "since we are becoming a business as opposed to a profession."

Under Lord Alexander — whom colleagues praise as "an inspirational leader" — an appeal was launched and £1.25 million raised to put the group on a firmer footing, with proper administrative back-up and offices. Beyond the profession itself, however, it has a crucial role — and a hard-earned reputation. Presley Baxendale, QC, a council member, says: "Its work is not sufficiently recognised by the general public. But lawyers are only too ready to work for it because it addresses the significant issues and has an effect."

Justice has made its name over miscarriages. But its work and achievements go wider: the ombudsman system, Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, data protection laws, safeguards in the Police Act on bugging provisions; fairness in asylum procedures and concessions in the Crime (Sentencing) Act. It is timely that this year marks a turning point in government policy on incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights and will see proposals for a Judicial Appointments Commission.

Justice is now at a turning point. It will gradually give up its case work on individual miscarriages. But that, Lord Alexander says, will free it to give time to the "immense canvas" of criminal and civil justice work: ensuring that the balance is maintained "between prosecution of crime and protection of civil liberties"; to the changing needs of law reform, its commitment to legal rights and in particular youth justice and European human rights.

Much of this work is where Justice began. Now that work is again increasingly centre-stage. Justice has made a key submission to the Intergovernmental Conference and is taking the lead in Europe over monitoring rights in the European Union.

In this monitoring role — where it has still much to do, in watching the work of the new Criminal Cases Commission and on the wider civil justice front — it is determined to scrutinise new laws and their effects. "Justice," Lord Alexander says, "is as much needed now, with the new issues that arise, pressures to combat crime and the need to protect our civil liberties, with law reform and human rights... as when it was founded."

Leading article, page 23

London exports its legal style

Edward Fennell on how the Italians welcome the Anglo-Saxon approach

For the Italians, it has become a matter of national pride to be among the first countries to be ready for the single currency — an attitude shared by many Italian lawyers. Fabbio Brembati of the Rome Office of Baker & McKenzie said last week: "Signor Romano Prodi's Government has made entry to EMU its first priority. It has reiterated this time and time again to justify the measures it has taken to cut the level of national debt."

Italy's endeavours to come into the mainstream of the EU have been reflected in the drive towards privatisation. Slow to get off the ground, they are now gathering momentum. The moves have also been the bait to draw some of the UK's largest law firms to set up in Italy.

Perhaps the most successful of these is Freshfields. Following in the footsteps of Clifford Chance, it has succeeded in winning the work on the three largest privatisations in Italy this year, culminating in being appointed US and international counsel to SBC Warburg on the privatisation of Autostrada (the Government-owned company that operates half the highway system). This represents a coup for its Milan office.

To reflect the escalating scale of its work in Italy's commercial centre, Freshfields moved yesterday into grand new offices in Milan that combine London-style efficiency with Italian grace. Though Italy is regarded as being a difficult market, the speed at which Freshfields has made its mark reflects great changes in the Italian way of doing business. Bright young lawyers realise that the traditional Italian way of lawyering — small firms that constantly fracture — cannot meet the demands of today's large transactions. Freshfields offers Italian, Ameri-

can and UK law experience to reflect the demands of its Italian and its international clients in the banking and corporate fields.

Giovanni Lega, a Milan Freshfields partner, explains: "Only to a limited extent are we taking work from local Italian lawyers. We are really here to undertake the new kind of international work that did not exist. And because of the speed of change, it is by no means a saturated market in Milan, as perhaps it is in London."

Fabrizio Arosio, another local partner, points out that the stability of the UK partnership system is an attractive alternative to the internecine war that used to break out in Italian legal practices.

Traverso & Associati is an Italian firm with strong links to Rowe & Maw in London. Maurizio Traverso, who runs the firm, is aiming to operate it on Anglo-Saxon lines. With 18 lawyers and predominately multinational clients, the firm has grown rapidly in order to provide the scale and quality of service that clients now need.

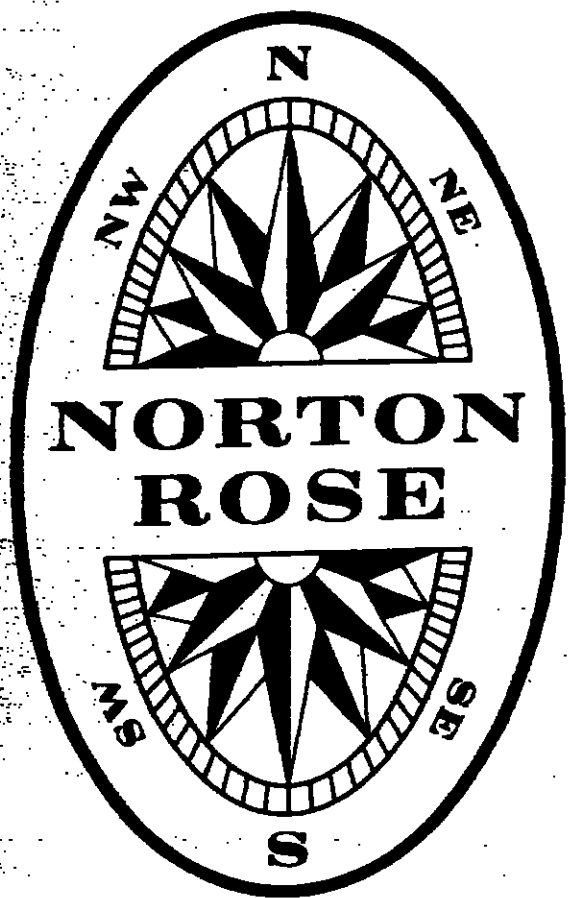
Bruno Giuffrè, a partner, says: "I think we have a genuine partnership here in a way that Anglo-Saxon lawyers would recognise. We emphasise strict control of quality and we are very keen on strengthening our links with selected foreign law firms."

This positive attitude towards London lawyers in particular was borne out by the merger last month of the firm of Grippo e Associati and Simmons & Simmons. Though the two outfits have had a joint venture in Milan and Rome for several years, their merger is of considerable significance. Partners from the Grippo firm have now become partners in Simmons & Simmons, again symbolising the ability of British and Italians to work harmoniously together.



PARTNERSHIP APPOINTMENTS

Norton Rose, a leading City of London and international law firm committed to building on success is creating Partner opportunities in its core practice areas. Partners in leading practices, in-house specialists and exceptional senior lawyers will be attracted to a legal environment where world class clients and dynamic and focused colleagues work together to achieve excellence.



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The financial package will reflect the seniority of these partnership appointments.

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Telephone: 0171 600 1000. Fax: 0171 600 5555.

For more information about the Firm, contact our website: <http://www.cliffordchance.com>

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High profile international engineering company seeks a junior company/CO lawyer with between 1 and 2 years' ppe to join a small hands on commercial team based in Central London. As well as excellent mainstream experience from the City, you will have an outgoing personality and have a flexible approach prepared to turn your hand to a broad range of legal issues. Excellent first time in-house move. Ref: TC40398

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OIL & GAS

To £Competitive + Bens
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For East finance house seeks to recruit a further junior lawyer for their European operation based in Central London. With between 0-2 years' ppe individuals will have top City firm training. Work will be mainly transaction management capital markets although some general company/commercial work will also form part of the role. Close link team and high calibre work. Ref: TC11838

GENERAL IN-HOUSE

Publishing house with strong international bias to the work seeks its first in-house lawyer to deal with a very broad range of legal issues. With between 1-3 years' ppe you will provide support for debt recovery, deal with all international contractual issues, employment law and have input on international business development. Practical down to earth personality and hands-on commercial approach essential. Ref: TC40457

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact Rebecca Emington or Michelle McGregor (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-357 0912 or 0171-792 0475 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JL. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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Brick Court Chambers are pleased to welcome back to Chambers Sir Nicholas Lyell QC MP, the former Attorney General. We are pleased to announce that Mr Conor Quigley has accepted an invitation to join our Brussels Chambers, where he will continue to practice European Community Law.

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LONDON OPPORTUNITIES

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Leading multi-branch City firm has extremely successful corporate and property practice groups providing an increasing amount of construction work. Although various partners handle this on an ad hoc basis there is no single partner to act as a focal point for developing this specialist. A partner is therefore sought who has an established name in construction law and the strength of personality to make a success of this new initiative. (Ref: 8581)

REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT BANK £100-250,000
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City practice, widely regarded as a market leader for property, requires a number of lawyers up to 7 years' qualified to deal with top quality work in long-term commercial property development. All teams if you have an ongoing personality and are of personality culture, then you will enjoy high quality work and an excellent remuneration package at this firm. (Ref: 7204)

RETAIL/INDUSTRY FINANCE £20-45,000
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MARKETING/INTEGRATION TO £100,000
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RETAIL/INDUSTRY FINANCE TO £50,000
Dynamic UK partner at the 3-5 year level sought by a leading City firm. The successful candidate will have a proven track record in trade media, copyright, trademark and patent law, international experience is particularly desirable. Client base includes a number of household names from a range of industries. A highly competitive package is on offer. (Ref: 0255)

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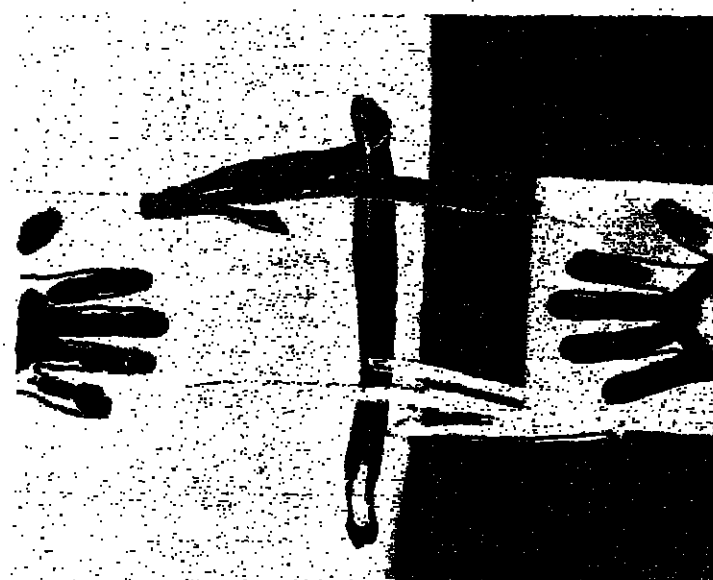
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CRICKET

Warne leads revival of Australian prospects

By SIMON WILDE

LEICESTER (final day of three): the Australians beat Leicestershire by 84 runs

NOT without some contrivance and goodwill, the Australians recorded their first win in nine matches and their first in a first-class match on tour when they dismissed Leicestershire for 179 on the stroke of 5pm at Grace Road yesterday. The county champions had been set a target of 264 to win in a minimum of 65 overs.

The last wicket to fall was that of Adrian Pearson, who was caught smartly at short leg by Justin Langer, who parried the ball before holding the rebound, to give Shane Warne his fifth wicket of the innings. Warne took five for 42 from 16 overs in conditions which did not suit him at all.

Win a pair of tickets for the Lord's Test match, page 7

With Paul Reiffel taking three more wickets and Mark Taylor scoring a half-century in the morning — albeit in relaxed circumstances — this was all morale-boosting stuff before the start of the second Test match at Lord's on Thursday. The Australians had gone through one abandonment, two draws and six defeats (four at the hands of England) since beating Northamptonshire exactly one month ago.

Their path to riches — they received £250 for winning under the terms of the Telford Challenge — was, however, far from smooth. With rain having intervened in the earlier stages of the game, it had taken three declarations to arrive at the run-chase and there was clearly agreement between the sides that victory would be pursued to the end.

Leicestershire never stopped playing their shots and the final hour was conducted in grim darkness and sporadic showers; a second XI game would not have proceeded in

such conditions. When rain began to fall with Leicestershire 158 for seven the umpires called for the covers, but a group of Australian players pointedly stayed on the outfield to keep loose, with Warne bowling to Slater, and play soon resumed.

Nevertheless, the Australians will regard the result as a fillip and Warne will be pleased to be back among the wickets after his travails at Edgbaston. He came on for the twentieth over of the innings, with Leicestershire on 85 for three. Reiffel had got the ball rolling by again removing Maddy with an off-cutter, but, for the first time since arriving to join the rest of the squad, he strayed from his immaculate line and length and took some punishment from Sutcliffe and Macmillan, who added 45 before both gave their wickets away to soft shots.

Warne will say he needed luck to get going again and that is precisely what he got in his second over, when Whitaker was given out leg-before to a ball that struck a front pad advanced well down the wicket. The appeal was polite rather than convincing. Whitaker had looked threatening; off the mark by hooking McGrath for six, he had also struck three crisp fours on his brisk march to 21.

Four overs later, Warne had Habib caught on the boundary, pulling, Nixon and Wells then played positively in a stand of 38 and it was not until Nixon, who was stumped shuffling carelessly out of his crease, and Ormond, who took the match award for his lively bowling on the first day, fell in the same over that the match tipped the way of the touring team. By then, batting cannot have been easy, given the light.

The last three wickets fell in four overs with Wells, whose 38 made him top scorer, blazing away to the end, caught at cover off Reiffel, whom he had just struck for two fours.



Habib sweeps the ball past Healy, the Australian wicketkeeper, as Taylor, the captain, looks on from first slip

Strang adds to Lancashire's woes

By RUPERT COX

OLD TRAFFORD (final day of four): Kent (24pts) beat Lancashire (6) by 58 runs

IT IS almost two years since Lancashire won a championship match at Old Trafford and, though the red rose continues to flourish in the one-day arena, it has remained decidedly withered and lifeless in the longer format. Yesterday, their die-hard support suffered yet more agonies after Kent sneaked home with seven balls to spare, and by 58 runs, as Martin McCague uprooted

Jamie Haynes's off stump, lifting Kent to the top of the table and leaving Lancashire without a win. Another stressful and perplexing championship summer looms for them.

Kent were worthy of their victory. Fourth last year, they are building a strong squad and played as a unit in this match. They have Dean Headley ready to return to complement McCague and in Paul Strang, their leg spinner, who took 11 wickets, they have not only a doughty cricketer but also a match-winner.

With all their resources, Dav Whatmore, the new coach of Lancashire, could

have been excused for believing he had taken on a dream job when he took charge at Old Trafford. Not so, and the enormity of his task must, by now, be dawning upon him. After tea, Lancashire re-emerged doubtless trying to pretend it was all a one-day game and, fleetingly, Neil Fairbrother and John Crawley grasped the initiative, taking their partnership to 53 in eight overs, before Fairbrother needlessly sliced Matthew Fleming to deep point. But the Lancashire batting is not getting and all too often they progress in fits and starts, with too much "glamour"

shots and not enough working the angles for singles. For example, Graham Lloyd, in the form of his career, walked to 17, only to hit Strang straight to long-off. Of course, Lancashire suffer from Test calls while injuries have added to their problems, but this is not a club that should be struggling in four-day cricket. Having been asked to score 306 for victory in a minimum of 58 overs, the unease surfaced and the innings began in sketchy fashion. Michael Atherton, scorer of an unbeaten 90 on Sunday, edged McCague through the slips second ball and then, engulfed in a Lancashire torpor, did not score again for nine overs. Crawley shone through, but although his travails have largely dispelled his problems playing across his front pad, they are not extinct. Playing across a delivery from Ben Phillips, he was leg-before for 91 from 119 balls.

For their differing reasons, play yesterday required a positive undertone from both teams and thus Kent set off in pursuit of quick runs only to stumble to 98 for six, 186 ahead. Without Wasim Akram and Peter Martin, Lancashire lacked the incision to blast away Kent's stubborn tail, allowing an obdurate Steve Marsh, the Kent captain, to shepherd his charges to safety and ultimate victory.

By IVO TENNANT

THE OVAL (final day of four): Surrey (11pts) drew with Yorkshire (10)

AT LUNCH, Yorkshire needed a further 201 of the 316 runs required to beat Surrey. They had six wickets intact, including that of Darren Lehmann, whose half-century was indicative of a batsman intent on more than mere survival.

Then came rain, thunder, lightning and large pools of water formed on and around the square.

There is an attractive photograph, taken by J G Dunbar,

of a huge storm brewing at the Oval towards the end of the Test match between England and Australia in 1964.

Yesterday the sky was so grey and dark all afternoon that there was no prospect of a resumption. Surrey, then, have still to win a championship match.

When Bicknell reduced Yorkshire to 34 for three, a victory looked feasible. With his second ball of the second over of the day, he knocked back Kettleborough's off stump. In the same over he had Byas leg-before offering a

half-hearted shot. Later in that spell, Moxon was caught at short leg, fending off a lifting ball.

Lehmann, though, was soon taking advantage of Surrey's reluctance to position a fielder at third man. Three of his nine fours were glided to that area and his square driving was no less impressive on this slow pitch.

There was still help for the spin bowlers and, just before lunch, Saqlain Mushtaq bowled Parker as he aimed to bisect the cover ring. Then came the rain.

Liquid lunch spoils Surrey's day

Hindson has a turn of good fortune

By MICHAEL AUSTIN

THE PARKS (second day of three): Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 329 runs ahead of Oxford University

REHABILITATION is nigh for James Hindson, 23, the Nottinghamshire slow left-arm bowler returning to the first-class game after a year of second-team obscurity. After taking 65 first-class wickets two years ago, Hindson gave way to the experienced Andrew Afford. Opportunity knocks again and Hindson took four for 28 yesterday.

Nottinghamshire, with a 200-run lead, declined to enforce the follow-on, keen to work Tim Robinson, their opener, back into form after a month's absence through a broken hand. He responded against Chetan Patel and James Averis, whose waywardness was an anxious preface to the Lord's match against Cambridge starting on July 2. The South African, Peter Morgan, had consorted the Dark Blues with 41.

Derbyshire unrest drives out coach

By PAT GIBSON

EDGBASTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (10pts) drew with Derbyshire (8)

AN extraordinary match that began with Dean Jones resigning from the Derbyshire captaincy because of "lack of support" from the senior players ended yesterday with those same players effectively forcing Les Stillman, the coach who accompanied Jones from Australia, out of his job.

Stillman's future will be decided today when he faces Mike Horton, the club chairman, Ian Buxton, chairman of the cricket committee, and the entire first-team squad at a meeting to consider the players' unhappiness at his failure to rebut Jones's allegations. It seems inevitable that the coach will soon be following the captain home.

Back in his office at Derby, Stillman said: "This is the first time in 27 years of coaching that I have not been with my team during a match and also the first time that I have been told not to talk to the press. But I can tell you that the

chairman and the cricket committee said that it would be better in the circumstances that exist at the moment if I was not around. "Before this all blew up, it had been suggested that I might spend some time with the second team and watch some Minor Counties games with a view to strengthening the staff and I saw some value in the idea. You might say that I have taken up those duties a week or two early."

Apparently the players asked that Stillman should be removed from the dressing room during the Asa Life League match by Warwickshire on Sunday and yesterday they regrouped to play in this rain-shortened match with a lot more character. Devon Malcolm seized his fourth five-wicket haul of the season, as they took the last three Warwickshire wickets for 19 to restrict the first-innings deficit to 140, and then Kim Barnett and Adrian Rollins banished their fears of being bowled out on a turning pitch with an opening stand of 113.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS	
Telford's Challenge Series Leicestershire v Australians LEICESTER (final day of three): Australia beat Leicestershire by 84 runs AUSTRALIANS: First Innings 220 for 4 dec (R T Ponting 64, J Ormond 6 for 54). Second Innings *M A Taylor c Macmillan b Mason 57 M J Slater b Ormond 17 M E Waugh not out 16 M G Bevan c and b Mason 13 Extras (lb 2) 2 Total (8 wickets dec) 105 BOWLING: Ormond 8-0-36-1, Maddy 7-1-13-0, Mason 4-0-21-2, Pearson 4-0-34-1 LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 62 for 4 dec. Second Innings D L Maddy b Reiffel 7 J Sutcliffe c Healy b McGrath 31 G Macmillan c Slater b Julian 26 *J J Whitaker b Warne 21 A Habib c Ponting b Warne 13 P A Nixon at Healy b Warne 24 V J Wells c Ponting b Reiffel 38 J Ormond b Warne 1 T J Mason c Julian b Reiffel 1 A R K Pearson c Langer b Warne 0 A D Maddy not out 12 Extras (lb 1, lb 1, w 1, nb 10) 13 Total 179 FALL 1-21, 2-66, 3-88, 4-92, 5-118, 6-155, 7-157, 8-168, 9-177 BOWLING: McGrath 14-5-40-1, Reiffel 12-3-9-3, Julian 8-1-35-1, Warne 16-4-22-5, Bevan 1-0-11-0. Umpires: D J Constant and J H Harris	
Warwickshire v Derbyshire EDGBASTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (10pts) drew with Derbyshire (8) WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 200 (V P Clark 99, N M K Smith 4 for 37, D R Brown 4 for 53). Second Innings K J Barnett b Welch 54 A S Rollins c Brown b Welch 59 T A Leinster not out 45 J E Owen b Giles 10 C J Adams not out 30 Extras (lb 4, lb 6, w 2, nb 18) 30 Total (8 wickets dec) 229 FALL OF WICKETS 1-113, 2-138, 3-102 BOWLING: Brown 5-2-14-0, Welch 14-2-50-2, Giles 26-12-47-1, Smith 19-10-61-0, Edmond 9-1-34-0, Henth 5-2-19-0 WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 13 *N V Knight c Krikorian b Malcolm 13 A J Miles c Krikorian b DeFreitas 80 D J Kemp c Krikorian b DeFreitas 63 D P O'Sullivan b Malcolm 33 D R Brown c Owen b Malcolm 2 R J Piper c Krikorian b Malcolm 12 S J Welch b G Giles 24 N M K Smith c Owen b Malcolm 26 A F Giles c Barnett b Harris 8 M D Edmond not out 5 Extras (lb 7, lb 9) 14 Total (11.5 overs) 340 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-150, 3-177, 4-216, 5-218, 6-254, 7-289, 8-326, 9-328 BOWLING: Malcolm 29-8-55-5, Harris 36-3-11-0-2, DeFreitas 31-6-89-2, Clark 13-1-13-0, Leinster 6-1-3-0. Umpires: N T Plews and R Palmer	
TABLE Kent (4) 8 1 1 1 1 24 105 Lancashire (6) 6 3 1 1 1 24 92 Essex (5) 6 3 1 1 1 24 91 Gloucestershire (10) 6 2 1 1 1 21 77 Glamorgan (10) 6 2 1 1 1 21 76 Hampshire (11) 6 2 1 1 1 21 75 Yorkshire (6) 6 2 1 1 1 21 70 Leicestershire (14) 6 1 0 5 15 24 70 Somerset (11) 6 2 1 1 1 21 70 Warwickshire (8) 6 2 1 1 1 21 68 Worcestershire (6) 6 1 0 4 15 17 65 Northants (17) 6 1 1 1 1 21 65 Surrey (7) 6 0 2 4 11 20 43 Durham (18) 6 0 2 4 12 19 43 Derbyshire (22) 6 0 3 3 12 15 39 Lancashire (15) 6 0 3 3 12 15 39 Northants (16) 6 0 2 3 7 15 31 [X] Worcestershire's record includes eight points as side batting last in match where scores finished level. (1996 positions in brackets)	
University matches Cambridge University v Durham FENNERS (final day of three): Cambridge University drew with Durham DURHAM: First Innings 288 for 2 dec (N S Speak 124 not out, D C Spoon 105 not out). Second Innings P D Collingwood not out 8 M A Roseberry not out 2 Extras (lb 2) 2 Total (no wicket) 32 BOWLING: How 7-4-10-0, Jansich 7-2-20-0 CARDIFF UNIVERSITY: First Innings 188 for 2 dec (E T Smith 97, Umpires: K J Lyons and B J Meyer)	
Oxford University v Nottinghamshire THE PARKS (second day of three): Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 329 runs ahead of Oxford University NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 324 for 4 dec (P R Pollard 115, A J Malcote 78, F F Archer 50 not out). Second Innings M P Downman b Patel 13 R T Robinson not out 41 N A Gile not out 45 Extras (lb 2A, nb 8) 8 Total (1 wicket) 129 FALL OF WICKET 1-29 BOWLING: Avers 8-1-30-0, Patel 11-1-50-1, Bamber 5-0-15-0, Byrne 5-1-20-0, Wright 4-1-12-0 OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings 15 N G Pithi c Gile b Hindson 15 B W Byrne c Walker b Pick 2 C A Welch b Gile b Hindson 11 C R Lightfoot b Franks 4 P G Morgan b Pick 4 J A G Fulford b Hindson 10 D J Harrison c Gile b Hindson 10 C Patel c Robinson b Hindson 12 J M M Avers c Malcote b Hindson 13 A P Smith b Franks 3 C M Battersby not out 0 Extras (lb 2, lb 10, w 2) 14 Total 124 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-21, 3-34, 4-7, 5-47, 6-72, 7-105, 8-108, 9-124 BOWLING: Franks 13-7-11-2, Pick 14-7-52-0, Downman 7-2-1-0, Bates 15-6-37-1, Hindson 16-7-22-4. Umpires: K E Palmer and P Willey	
AON TROPHY (one day): MCC Young Cricketers 192-9, Sussex 193-2 Petros 82 not out, D A Radford 68 not out. Sussex won by 6 wickets	



Russell: frustrating

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
BREAK POINT
AND BREAKING POINT.

Kellogg's
Sustain
GO THE DISTANCE
500g

GO THE DISTANCE

Williams gains valuable experience

By JULIAN MUSCAT
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

VENUS WILLIAMS, the teenager from California, yesterday completed the rigours of qualifying for the Direct Line International Championships at Eastbourne when she defeated Miho Saeki, of Japan, after something of a struggle. Much to the organisers' relief, Williams prevailed 6-3, 6-4 and now meets her compatriot, Chanda Rubin, in the opening round today.

Also through from the qualifying rounds is Jo Ward, the former national champion, who upset Gloria Pizzichini, an Italian ranked No 86 in the

world, in three sets. Ward, the world No 351, put up a career-best performance against an opponent who led Martina Hingis by one set and 4-3 before succumbing in the French Open earlier this month.

Ward, who is now forced out of the qualifying event for Wimbledon, next meets Naoka Sawamatsu, of Japan, the world No 46, in the first round. Britain's other representatives face equally daunting assignments. Shirl-Ann Siddall opposes Ai Sugiyama, of Japan, the world No 26, while Lucie Ahl is up against Anne Sot, of France, ranked at No 30.

Williams, 16, spurned a wild-card entry to develop her grass-court game in advance of this tournament and Wimbledon. Her match with Rubin, formerly ranked No 6 in the world and a semi-finalist at the Australian Open last year, brings together two of the finest young talents from the United States. Rubin is back in harness after missing much of last year with an injured hand. She is a former finalist at Eastbourne, but all eyes will be on Williams. The distinctive American — she stands 6ft 2in, plays in beaded dreadlocks and hits with considerable force — makes her first tour appearance in Britain alongside Monica Seles, the top seed and defending champion, Jana Novotna, Iva Majoli and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario.

Seles, 23, comes into the event after reaching the semi-finals at the French Open, where she lost to Hingis in three sets. Seles is projected to meet Sanchez Vicario in the semi-finals.

Sanchez Vicario, a beaten finalist at Wimbledon in the past two years, makes only her second singles appearance at Eastbourne. She was beaten by Martina Navratilova in the 1991 final.

In the lower half of the draw, Novotna, of the Czech Republic, is expected to meet Majoli, of Croatia, in the other semi-final. Majoli arrives fresh from her triumph in the French Open, where she defeated Hingis in straight sets. However, her record on grass is poor: she has yet to win a match of any description at Wimbledon.

In a particularly strong entry, perhaps the pick of the opening-round matches today is that between Nathalie Tauziat, the winner here two years ago, and Mary Joe Fernandez, the No 5 seed, from the United States. Tauziat, of France, won the DFS Classic tournament at Edgbaston on Sunday.

John Hopkins on the duel between golf's most recent rivals

Montgomery haunted by bogey

Colin Montgomery flew home from Washington on Sunday night cushioned by the comforts of a first-class seat from the awkward realisation that another major championship had got away from him. In his competitive lifetime, a golfer only has a finite number of chances to win a major championship. Montgomery has had three in four years and come second each time, twice in play-offs. Time is running out.

It is, however, in keeping with the rhythms of an individual sport. Golf has created rivalries since the earliest days of the competitive professional game. Ernie Els, who has twice snatched the US Open from Montgomery, as well as defeating him in the final of the 1994 World Match Play Championship, is becoming Montgomery's bogey figure. Byron Nelson always seemed to be in the way of that small, determined Texan, Ben Hogan, and not until the early Fifties did Hogan finally get past Nelson. Arnold Palmer was Jack Nicklaus's bogey in the early days of his career when, no matter what Nicklaus did, it seemed to offend those who favoured Palmer. Early on, Nicklaus was so unpopular because of the way he had appeared to shoulder Palmer aside that spectators held up signs in the rough reading "hit it here, Jack".

Sandy Lyle haunted Nick Faldo, again and again. Faldo was the first to win in the United States and Lyle responded by winning the Open Championship. Faldo won the Open two years later, only for Lyle to cap this in the 1988 Masters, a time when he was briefly the best player in the world. Not until 1989, when Faldo won at Augusta for the first time, did he finally, and irrevocably, pass Lyle. There have been many other such cases. Nicklaus and Johnny Miller, Nicklaus and



Montgomery cuts a forlorn figure as Els celebrates success in the US Open. Photograph: David Cannon/Allsport

Lee Trevino, Nicklaus and Tom Watson. First, it is not always essential that both combatants are vying for world supremacy, because Els and Montgomery are only two of a group considered to be the leading players in the world. For the moment, though, their planets seem destined to collide more than others.

Second, Els does not win every time he has a chance to. He held a three-stroke lead in the 1995 US PGA Championship, but it was Montgomery who whis-

ted past him with birdies on each of the last three holes to get into a play-off with Steve Elkington. In the Open at Royal Lytham last summer, who was the leading contender who twice hit bad drives over the closing holes and, thus, did not pressurise Tom Lehman? Ernie Els. Who was beaten in a play-off for the Million Dollar Challenge in South Africa last December? Els. Who beat him? Montgomery.

Third, the difference between winning and losing major championships turns on skill, courage and circumstances. On Sunday it was Els who demonstrated the skill and Montgomery who suffered the circumstances.

By the 17th on Sunday, the US Open was almost matchplay. Jeff Maggert and Lehman had fallen behind, leaving Els and Montgomery level at four under par. Els's mind flashed back to the 10th hole of the final of the 1994 World Match Play, where he had driven shorter than Montgomery to hit into the green first and pressurise the Scot. Els's plan worked. He won the match on that hole.

Something similar happened on Sunday. Els, outdriven by a few yards by Montgomery, demonstrated skill and courage to hit a glorious free-tron to 15 feet of the flagstick. Montgomery could not match it. Then, just to compound this, Montgomery found himself

having to wait for nearly five minutes for players to leave the nearby 18th green before facing a slippery, downhill five-foot putt for par. Now he could either wait and let the difficulties of the putt gnaw away at his composure, or play and miss and be accused of rushing perhaps the most important putt of his life.

"It's getting me down, this major business," Montgomery said later. "The more I go through every major championship not winning one, the next one that I'm in contention in certainly sets more pressure

on me." I am convinced that Montgomery is not a Greg Norman figure, condemned forever as a man whose blazing talents exceeded his achievements.

Montgomery will win a major championship one day and will probably go on and win a second as well. He is too good a golfer, too intelligent a man, to remain the holder of that dreadful label — the best player never to have won a major championship. Els, though, who is six years younger, will win at least twice as many.

FINAL SCORES

United States unless stated	
276: E Els (SA) 71, 67, 69, 69	280: D Clarke (GB) 73, 74, 73, 70: P
277: C Montgomery (GB) 65, 76, 67, 69	McKelson 75, 68, 73, 74: F Funk 73,
278: T Lehman 67, 70, 68, 73	70, 72, 75: C Pary (USA) 70, 74, 69, 72:
279: J Maggert 73, 66, 68, 74	D Duval 74, 72, 70, 74: C Pory 70, 73,
280: R Taylor 71, 71, 70, 70: D Brune 71,	71, 76
71, 69, 71: J Pank 74, 68, 69, 71: I	281: J Pankew (Swe) 72, 75, 73, 71: N
Toglia 74, 67, 69, 72: J Hays 70, 69, 68,	Falko (GB) 72, 74, 69, 76
71, 71, 72, 71	282: D White 70, 72, 73, 77
283: S McGarron 73, 71, 69, 70: S Hoch 71,	283: L Jordan 72, 73, 75, 73: H Hays 70, 73,
68, 72, 72: D O'Connell 69, 71, 73	71, 73, 76: J Nicklaus 73, 71, 75, 74: F
284: L Roberts 72, 69, 72, 71: S Cink 71, 67,	Comple 73, 72, 72, 74: P Terasanen
74, 72: W Anschutz 75, 67, 69, 70	71, 73, 74, 75: P Broadhurst (GB) 77,
285: D Love III 75, 70, 69, 71: B Hughes,	69, 72, 75
July 75, 70, 71: 69: J M Cuzabul (Sp) 71,	286: L Mize 70, 74, 76, 74: C Rose 72, 71,
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287: P Slomkowski 75, 70, 68, 73: N Pritz	287: S Smith 77, 69, 74, 75: D Waldron 73,
(Cm) 71, 71, 71: 70: L Woodcock (GB) 71,	73, 76, 75: S Jones 72, 75, 69, 79: R
71, 73, 71: T Woods 74, 67, 72: G	Baucher 74, 74, 70, 75
H Sutton 66, 73, 74	288: D Schweyer 68, 73, 82, 74: B Ounthout
289: L Macnace 71, 75, 72, 68: F Fritsch (GB)	73, 74, 76, 74: B Faxon 72, 74, 76, 75: T
72, 73, 73, 69: S Dunlop 75, 66, 75, 71:	Wardson 72, 72, 72, 79
S Elkington (AUS) 75, 68, 70, 72	289: T Kite 75, 69, 69, 70: M Hubbard 73, 73,
290: P Gordon 73, 72, 69: P Azzurro 72,	77, 75: G Knit 77, 69, 76, 76: J Moore
72, 74, 70: P Stewart 71, 73, 73: M	71, 74, 76, 77: S Ames (Fin) 73, 73, 75,
Wentz (GB) 62, 72, 75, 75: H Kase	71, 75, 73
Larson 69, 73, 73, 74: F Zoladz 72, 73,	291: J Green 75, 72, 73, 73
69, 74, 69: 70, 75, 75: S Pegibay (AUS)	300: R Wyle 71, 76, 77, 76: A Collet (GB)
71, 75, 75: J Sturn 69, 72, 72, 75	74, 71, 76, 79
292: J Leonard 69, 72, 76, 70: G Wain 62,	301: S Gowers 74, 73, 83, 74: R Reid 73, 69,
72, 74, 73: 71: M O'Meara 73, 72, 75:	83, 76, 75: V Singh (FI) 71, 76, 77, 77,
Schore 66, 70, 75, 75: S Pegibay (AUS)	71, 75, 73: F Moleba (NZ) 71, 74, 70,
71, 75, 73: F Moleba (NZ) 71, 74, 70,	74: J Cook 72, 71, 71, 75

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 48

BASOPHIL

(c) Something that stains readily with a basic dye. Applied to a cell or other structure having an affinity with basic substances. From the Greek. "The nuclei of all these varieties of coloured blood corpuscles are basophil, which means that they have a strong affinity for basic aniline dyes such as methylene blue."

FAVELA

(b) In Brazil, a shack or shanty. Usually in the plural, favelas, a collection of improvised huts, a shanty town. Hence faveladeo, a person dwelling in a favela. "In the midst of all this beauty and elegance, you discover the favelas. The favela is a wretched, ramshackle, filthy run up out of sticks, rotting planks, dirty rags and cardboard, as a rule in less than 24 hours. The favelas have no electricity."

ANABRANCH

(a) Especially in Australia, where this geographical phenomenon is common, a branch stream which turns out of a river and re-enters it lower down.

COLNEY HATCH

(c) The name of a Middlesex village, and of a mental hospital opened there in 1851. Hence used allusively as a toponym for a lunatic asylum or madhouse.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... Nh1-c2; 2. Rd1 Rd2 and mate follows.

On the road to success



Ekblom and Whately (BBC1, 9.30pm)

The Driving School

BBC1, 8.00pm

This is an even cleverer series than it first seemed. Not only are learner drivers rich material in themselves, but also their stories become more compelling when they are carried over from episode to episode. Like a soap opera, *Driving School* builds interest through resident characters and running plots. Maureen Rees, a star last week, is still having terrible rows with her husband, Dave, and still trying to reverse round corners without pranging the family Lada. As she takes her eighth test, Dave sits nervously at home, preparing for the worst. Last week we saw Joan Redwell get her licence, but having bought a car, she is too frightened to drive it. New characters tonight, whom we shall surely meet again, are 17-year-old twins who hope to get through the test in only two weeks.

My Sister

Channel 4, 9.00pm

Annie Paul's documentary on sisterhood uses the simple but effective formula of interviewing three contrasting stories, all of them told with a frankness that is often painful. Throughout the film, emotions are never far from the surface. Michelle became a surrogate mother to two younger sisters and a brother when she was only nine, filling the gap in the family left by a violent, alcoholic father and a mother having to work long hours to bring in vital income. Perhaps surprisingly, the experience failed to sour her and, ten years on, relationships with her siblings remain close. Jo and Dee are sisters, recently reunited after being estranged for 20 years, while Wendy, a teacher in her forties, is finally coming to terms with the death of her sister 32 years ago. A companion film on brothers is being shown next week.

The Broker's Man

BBC1, 9.30pm

Kevin Whately's latest role is Jimmy Griffin, a former detective who now runs a company investigating dodgy insurance claims. Quite how this ties in with his first adventure, involving the theft of container lorries and a £1 million ransom demand, is not quite clear, but it is destined to yield

enough drama not only for the episode tonight but for next week as well. It is the standard ransom plot, complete with the handover of the money that goes predictably wrong. The other strand is our hero's complicated private life. We first meet him in court, where his former wife (Annette Ekblom) is suing him for maintenance. She is also unhappy that he is tagging along with an old mistress (Michelle Fairley) and his kids get caught in the crossfire. Whately's viewer-friendly style is legendary, but all of it may be needed to lift what so far seems like ordinary material.

Chinese Whispers

BBC2, 9.30pm

You can expect an avalanche of programmes on Hong Kong as the handover to China approaches, including a five-part series on the final years of British sovereignty and the thoughts of Barry Humphries' Sir Les Patterson. *Chinese Whispers* sets the scene by going back to the early 1980s and detailing the process by which the deal was struck. The British Government, headed by Margaret Thatcher, put its best diplomatic gloss on the agreement, but the film suggests that the deal was the result of a great deal of back-room dealing, to the great dismay of the people of Hong Kong who were left mostly in the dark. The Chinese, on the other hand, got everything they wanted and gained belated revenge for Great Britain's seizure of Hong Kong 150 years ago.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

21 Today: The Prince's Trust Comes of Age

Radio 2, 9.30pm

The surest sign of ageing is that one can scarcely believe that it is 21 years since the newspapers were full of stories about the Prince of Wales casting around for "a role in life", deciding that he might be able to help the less fortunate and discovering that this step was regarded as political. Now, The Prince's Trust is regarded as a part of the landscape, meaning that most of us have forgotten it. This programme demonstrates that the trust has done some good work. There is a lengthy interview with HRH, none of which, unsurprisingly, is taken up with his private life for this relief, much thanks. Instead, the Prince recalls some of the people whom he has helped and demonstrates that his commitment remains absolute.

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiteley 2.00am Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Gunning 6.15 Newsbeat 8.30 Evening Service 8.50 Digital Update with Rachel Raynard 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Claire Sturge 4.00 Dave Pearce

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Lester 7.30 Sarah Kennedy 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thompson 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.00 Chris Serle 7.00 Alan Freeman: The Greatest Hits 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 Scott Joplin: King of Ragtime 9.30 21 Today — The Prince's Trust Comes of Age. See Choice 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Charles Nowe

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 9.00 The Magazine 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Race on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Extra 7.35 Any Sporting Questions? Live from Crick Park, Dublin. Pat Murphy is the host, with a panel including the snooker champion Ken Doherty and the journalist Eamonn Dunphy 9.30 The 21st Century and How to Survive It 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours with Vincent Hanna 2.00am Up All Night 1.00am Mike Dixon

TALK RADIO

5.00am Chris Ashley and Sandy Warr 7.00 Paul Ross 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Dinkley 7.00 Anna Raeburn 10.00 James White 1.00am Mike Dixon

At The Foot of the Mountain

Radio 4, 2.30pm

If you happen to think that film music is there to fill up awkward gaps (and the worst of it sounds as if it is), this is not your sort of programme, but, if you think that the music matters and have ever wondered how it gets to be meshed so neatly with the action, this is a fascinating nuts-and-bolts primer in which Elmer Bernstein talks us through the birth pangs of his score for Martin Scorsese's *The Age of Innocence*. Bernstein describes the process in great detail, starting with the first approach and taking in the musical changes along the way. Perhaps the most interesting aspect is the amount of detailed contact that Bernstein had with Scorsese: they spent a great deal of time discussing moods and thought processes.

Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. 6.00am Newsbeat 6.30 Europe 7.15 The World Today 7.30 Hong Kong: Imperial Opinions 8.15 Off the Shelf 8.30 Sport Science 9.00 News in German 9.10 Pausa for Thought 9.15 The Red Hills of Home 9.30 Everyman 10.00 Business 10.15 Marketing 10.30 Literature File 10.45 Sport 11.00 On Screen 11.30 The World Today 12.00 News in German 1.00 News in German 1.05 Business 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sport 2.00 Newsbeat 3.05 Outlook 3.20 Multitrack 4.05 Sport 4.15 The Red Hills of Home 4.30 News 4.50 Europe 5.30 Business 5.45 Britain 6.15 The World Today 6.30 News in German 6.45 Sport 7.30 One Planet 8.01 Outlook 8.25 Pausa for Thought 8.30 Megatons 9.00 Newsbeat 10.05 Marketing 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Marketing Live 11.00 The World Today 11.45 Sport 12.05am Outlook 12.30 Megatons 1.30 The Farming World 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Discovery 3.30 Meridian Live 4.05 Business 4.15 Sport 4.30 Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Alan Mann 9.00 Henry Kelly 1.00pm Concerto: Josef Stradal (Fute Concerto in B flat major), Brahms (Double Concerto in A minor, Op 102) 1.30pm James Clerk 2.00 News 2.30 Sonata: Mendelssohn (Cello Sonata No 1 in B flat major, Op 45) 3.00 Concerto: Prokofiev (Piano Concerto No 3 in C), Stravinsky (Petushka) 10.00 Michael Mappin 2.00am Concerto (1)

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Russ 'n' Jon 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.30 Nicky Horse 6.00 Pat Coyte (FI) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Farrel 2.00am Richard Porter

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Schubert (March for Children), Bartok (Symphonie Fantastique), Vivaldi (Fute Concerto in D, The Goldfish). 9.00 Morning Collection, with Peter Hobday. Includes Vivaldi (Violin Concerto in F, Autumn, For 4), Scarlatti (Alcibiades (Benedictus), Mozart (Piano Sonata in B flat, K570), Rimsky-Korsakov (Capriccio Espagnol). 10.00 Musical Encounters, with Andrew Lyle. Includes Tchaikovsky (Rococo for Organ, exl), Haydn (La Folia), Wagner (Der Fliegende Hollander, exl), Schubert (Der Hochzeitsbräutigam), Brahms (Der Abend, Fugue). 12.00 Composer of the Week: Paul Patterson. 1.00pm City of London Sinfonia, under Andrew Watkinson. The third of six concerts of French music: Saint-Saëns (Symphonie in E flat, Op 65), Debussy (Chansons (Benedictus), Poulenc (Sonnet for piano and wind). 2.00 Voices. To mark the 150th anniversary of Mendelssohn's death, the German soprano Sibylle Steinmetz sings a selection of his songs (1). 2.45 The BBC Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conductor Richard Baines, Marco Rizzi, violin, Fiona Kimm, soprano, Bassini (Violin Concerto), Scarlatti (Chaconne), Berio (Folk Songs, 1973) (1). 4.00 Spirit of the Age. In the last of three programmes, Christopher Page and his guests, Colin Bee and John Stevens, look at the life and work of the poet Andrew Marvell (1). 5.00 Music Machine: Gypsy Music. Iren Kertesz talks to Tommy Pearson about changes in the colour of Hungarian gypsy music, under Hans Vork, with Miroslav Maslany, cello, 5.00 Piano recital by Helena Sa o Costa 5.30 Sequence.

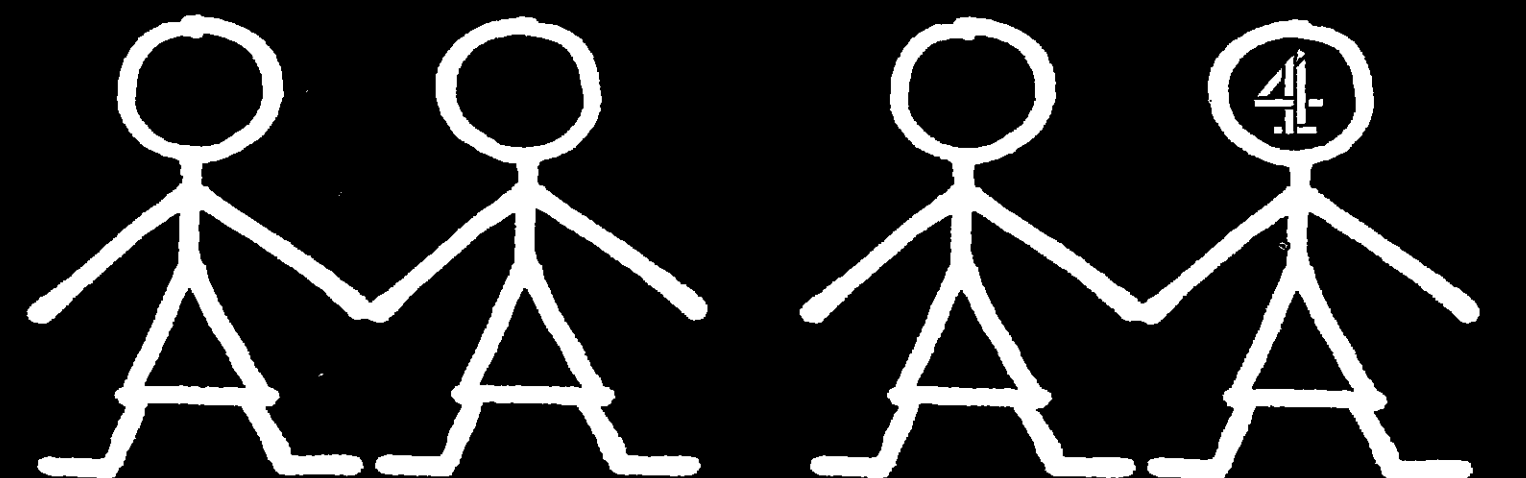
RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today with Sue MacGregor and James Naughtie Includes Thought for the Day 6.58 Weather News 9.05 Call Edward Stourton, Telephone 0171-380 4444 with your questions for the guest of the day. 10.00 News: Hong Kong — The Closing Year (FM). District record (the rolling) as the British Crown Colony approaches the handover to China (S/G). 10.00 Daily Service (LW) 10.15 On This Day (LW) 10.30 Women's Hour, with Jenni Murray. 11.30 Medicine Now. A review of the latest developments in medicine with Geoff Watts. 12.00 News: You and Yours. Consumer news and current affairs with Lesley Riddoch. 12.25pm Quilts. Uniquely, Nigel Rees is in the chair for the quotations quiz, and on the panel are Nigel Barley, Stephen Fry, Sir Bernard Ingham and Rula Laniya. 1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke in Amsterdam and James Cox in London. 1.40 The Archers (1) 4.05 News 2.00 News: Thirty Minute Theatre: Paddy and Chips with Scraps. The award-winning play by Mandy Paterson, telling the story of recently widowed Li who together with a new head takes off on a voyage of discovery in her late husband's chip van. With Rita Tushingham and Ravi J. Gonsara. 2.30 At The Foot of the Mountain. See Choice (1/4). 3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Dore Brenan. Includes the companion of the A-Z of youth culture. 4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope, Paul Vaughan looks at the European bestseller The Book of Memories by Peter Nadrat and the French novel Pig Tales by Marie Darrieusq. 4.45 Short Story: An Alternative Romance, by Iris Doyle. A wife explains domestic life in a house full of transistors. Read by Susan Mearns. 5.00 PM, with Kevin Bogue and Nigel Wrench 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather. 6.00 News 6.05 News 6.10 News 6.15 News 6.20 News 6.25 News 6.30 People Like Us. The second of the six-part comedy by John Mortimer featuring the hapless broadcaster Roy Maltard. With Chris Langham, Hamel Walter, Melanie Hudson, Dominic Lettis, Kim Wail and Robert Harley (1). 7.00 News 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 File on 4, with Jonathan Rugman. 8.00 Science Now. The weekly look into the ever-developing world of science with Peter Evans (1). 8.30 Life of Crime. Evan Hunter is the author of The Blackboard Jungle and other novels but his Ed McBain is a writer of crime fiction (2/4). 9.00 At Tenish, Peter White with news and features for visually impaired people. 9.30 Kaleidoscope (1) 9.50 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight, with Jeremy Harris. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sandy Bottom Orchestra, by Carmen Koller and Jenny Lind. Narrated by Barbara Barmen (1/10). 11.00 Mediaman. A look at the week's media events with Vincent Waller. 11.30 A View from Abroad (FM). The Egyptian writer Ahdaf Soueif explores the difficulties encountered by outsiders trying to gain an understanding of British society. 11.30 Today in Parliament (LW). 12.00 News and 12.27am approx Weather. 12.30am The Late Book: The Information, by Martin Amis. Read by William Night (11/15). 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service.

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1, FM 97.8-99.8. RADIO 2, FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3, FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4, FM 92.4-94.8. LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE, MW 648, LW 138 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McManera.

My Sister: Tonight 9.00

Tales of rivalry, guilt, love and protection



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